House adopts joint resolution to help EAD workers. PAGE 2
2017 GDP data to be announced today. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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'We are just doing our job'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A day after former governor Juan N. Babauta sued her and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for the sorry state of the Marpi swimming pool, Public Lands Secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo insisted yesterday that she and her team are just doing the job that Torres had asked them to do, and that is to make sure all public lands are properly managed and put to good use within the tenets of the CNMI Constitution.

Concepcion-Teregeyo

Concepcion-Teregeyo said that her department had been getting a lot of flak lately, with some members of the community even saying she's not doing her job.

"I would like to clarify that the governor has allowed me to my job, to do it right, and to vet the process. There's a lot of information out in the community about the Bloomberg article and about the al-

See JOB on Page 4

'This is not the normal way we treat workers'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Jose, not his real name, was nearly done completing his requirements for a construction job in New Zealand when one of his friends told him that an investor on Saipan also needs laborers to complete its hotel project. The offer of higher pay, close to $15-an-hour plus overtime, attracted him and his friend to try their luck at working in the Commonwealth.

He and his friend are among the

See WORKERS on Page 4

RELATED NEWS
➤A day in the life... PAGE 2

'9/11 changed how we view terrorism'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The events of 9/11 almost 20 years ago awakened the nation and changed how the world views terrorism, according to an American Red Cross volunteer who was on ground zero just days after the attacks.

Claudine Atalig, one of many who responded in the wake of the terrorist attacks that occurred in New York on Sept. 11, 2001, noted that the attacks startled the nation into action.

"9/11 changed the world forever. It was a turning point for our nation in how we viewed terrorism. It was also a time when our entire country was galvanized by patriotism and heroics," she said yesterday, as the guest speaker for the 3rd Annual Field of Heroes Freedom Walk at the American Memorial Park, where several U.S. flags are posted in commemoration of those who gave their lives during 9/11 and those who continue to put their lives on the line for others.

See TERRORISM on Page 4

Despite a torrential downpour, Mount Carmel School students volunteered their time this past weekend to help set up the 2018 Field of Heroes at American Memorial Park. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

See more photos on Page 9

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Canada became the largest country with a legal national marijuana marketplace.
PAGE 13

NATION
Hurricane Michael killed at least 16 people in Florida. That's on top of at least 10 others.
PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE
Prince Harry meets a 98-year-old war widow again.
PAGE 21

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Local

A day in the life…

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Daily life for *Kuya* Boy (name changed to prevent any backlash) has become an unchanging routine since May when he first set foot on Saipan.

"I wake up at 5am every day, take a [shower], eat breakfast, and read the last message from my family on my phone to inspire me throughout the day," he said, speaking in Tagalog.

"The work shuttle picks us up at 6am and work proceeds from 7am to 4pm and sometimes extended to 6pm due to overtime work. When I reach the dormitory, I immediately reach for my phone to talk to my wife instead of reaching for my dinner. My heart is suffused with love upon hearing my loved ones.

"I massage my own shoulders to take away the ache from the day's work and then I go to sleep, to repeat the same routine the next day," he said.

This has been *Kuya* Boy's life since May. Recently laid off as a mason of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, the abrupt termination of his contract early this week, together with 79 other foreign workers with H2-B visas, means he has to make new plans, despite being assured of a job until January 2019.

His routine looks simple but the things that happen in between are not. "There were days when I wake up feeling that I didn't want to get up. My body is tired from the work the day before. I know every worker, whether you are in construction or office work, have this kind of day," he said.

"But what makes it harder for us is we have to ignore the feeling. One, we are in a foreign land, totally dependent on our company; and two, whether we like it or not, we have to go to work because of the 'no work, no pay' policy," he added.

Kuya Boy said that he was hired as a mason. However, ever since he arrived, he has not done any masonry work or anything related to it. "Out of 400 masons brought to work in the site, only 50 people actually perform the job. In our first two weeks, we were assigned many jobs except masonry. I worked as a cleaner, scaffolder, helping other workers put up pre-casts outside."

"They told us they don't have a masonry job that they can give us, so we were told to do other things. One time we were ordered to sweep the floor and another boss questioned us. We feel helpless in these situations because we got that order to clean because there is no other work," he said.

He cited an instance when a worker was hit in the eye by a welding flux. "This worker was doing welding work, apart from what is in his contract. He injured his eye and was rushed to the hospital. IPI refused to pay for the hospital bills because they said the accident happened when the worker was not doing the work he was there for," he said.

"But I heard later on that IPI paid for his bills, but he did not get paid his wages as they followed the 'no work, no pay' policy. Recently, another Filipino worker almost lost his finger while at work and the safety officers did not make a report so the worker did not get monetary support for that," he added.

Despite the experience and the things that he has witnessed, *Kuya* Boy stayed afloat. "I have my family to think of. I went here to give my family a good future. They are always my mind. I spent my break time talking to my wife so I can be reminded of my 'why,'" he said. He was paid $14.27 an hour and food and lodging were provided.

"My goal is that I want my children to reach college and masonry is the only way I know how. I only know construction work. I want my children to be more than that," he added.

In an earlier email IPI sent *Saipan Tribune,* it said the reduction of workers is based on the demand of the project. "The purpose of the reduction is to adjust the level of labor supply based on the demand of the construction project… The adjustment is in line with effective workforce planning and efficiency improvement of the project."

IPI said the terminated workers would be given seven days' worth of salary for their accrued paid time off that would reflect in their final paycheck.

Kuya Boy and the 79 men are just waiting for their plane tickets back to the Philippines, "I don't regret that this happened to me. I believe God put me here for a reason and I trust that there is a better opportunity coming my way. This experience taught me not to be complacent," he said.

"I admit that the salary was really good but the system at work and how the company is run is not ideal. If given the chance to come back to Saipan to work in a different company, I will," he added.

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House adopts joint resolution to help EAD workers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives adopted Wednesday House Joint Resolution 20-13 that would support the combined efforts of the CNMI government and the private sector to assist over 2,000 foreign workers who are either under the humanitarian parole program or hold an employment authorization document.

H.J.R. 20-13 seeks to extend the 240-day rule under 8 C.F.R. 274a.12(b)(20) "so that affected individuals may be authorized to continue their employment under the previous EADs pending the adjudication and approval of their renewed EADs."

The workers—who are from Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, Japan, and South Korea—will have expiring papers at the end of the year and they will have to stop working starting on Jan. 1, 2019, while the renewal of their documents are being processed. Some of the workers either have minor U.S. citizen children or were given transitional conditional permits (umbrella permits).

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wrote Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen last week regarding the issue in connection with the meeting that took place on Sept. 23 with foreign workers at the Marianas Business Plaza.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), who is now the vice chairman of the House Federal and Foreign Affairs Committee that he previously headed, introduced H.J.R. 20-13. It is now headed to the Senate where they are expected to discuss it at their session on Oct. 23.

Demapan said the H.J.R. shows the unified front of the Legislature. "It's a resolution adopted by both the House and Senate as compared to just a House resolution or just a Senate resolution. By way of a joint resolution, it becomes a unified position of our Legislature."

Many foreign workers who have U.S. citizen children kept their immigration status legal after being granted humanitarian parole following the enactment of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 or Public Law 110-229. Foreign workers managed to get jobs through their EADs.

However, the processing period for both the humanitarian parole and EADs became a concern over the years as it disrupted the employment of these workers. Their humanitarian parole expires on Dec. 31, 2018, along with it are their EADs. They can only re-apply for EADs once their humanitarian parole renewal is approved.

Demapan said the work stoppage while their documents are being processed would affect the livelihood of the over 2,000 workers, which approximately represents 10 percent of the CNMI workforce.

Spotlight on tech influence on NMI workforce

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce was able to get a first taste of the Early Adoption Technology Conference when panelists served as guests at a pre-event luncheon yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The 2018 EATC, which starts today at the Saipan World Resort up to Saturday, would touch on technology's influence on the CNMI's workforce and would touch on topics such as artificial intelligence, inclusive entrepreneurship, and sustainable technology ecosystems, among other topics.

According to HCR Consulting chief executive officer David Rixter, who would be speaking today about inclusive entrepreneurship, technology is a possible medium of globalization for the CNMI and other remote areas.

"Technology is exponential. It is moving faster. If we leverage technology where it benefits society, I believe it would benefit all of the world," Rixter said in an interview.

"It's about workplace and jobs," he said. "We need to make sure that underserved communities, isolated communities, have access to these resources—that's why we are here," he added. "Allowing the CNMI to leap ahead and participate in this opportunity gives [the NMI] a unique place in time, where the community [wants to participate]."

According to Commonwealth Development Authority economic development analyst Oscar Camacho, the agency invited Rixter, along with several other individuals from across the nation, for the conference in the CNMI.

"We need to start thinking of a technology-based industry," Camacho said.

Chamber executive director Maxine Laszlo told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she believes technology would eventually reach all corners of the world.

"…This industry would come whether we like it or not," she said. "If members of the business community or if the SCC could be at the forefront of understanding how to enter these markets and provide it for local students to be able to bring goods to the market as well as how existing businesses could already profit, I bet that is a win-win for everybody."

"…At the end of the day, we can make this work for our island[s] in a way that it could benefit everybody," Laszlo said.

The EATC 2018 conference would be convening at the Saipan World Resort from 9am to 5pm. For Oct. 19, 2018, the conference would continue from 10am to 2pm at the American Memorial Theater and would conclude at same venue the following day from 11am to 12pm.

Alleged tailgating results in a slap

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A 30-year-old man is claiming that he slapped another man for driving too close to him, saying he thought the victim was falling asleep and needed to be woken up.

In the continuation of the bench trial for Ryan Duenas in Superior Court, Duenas said he slapped the alleged victim because he thought he was falling asleep.

"I slapped him to wake him up because I thought he was falling asleep…that's why he was trying to hit me," Duenas said.

The bench trial started last Monday and is still ongoing.

Duenas was represented by his counsel, Robert Torres, and the government was represented by Office of the Attorney general assistant attorney general Robert Glass Jr.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho is presiding over the case.

On or about Feb. 15, 2018, Duenas allegedly slapped another man in his vehicle for driving too close behind him, allegedly nearly hitting the back of his vehicle, in Chalan Kiya Drive.

Duenas has since been charged with one count of assault and battery and one count of disturbing the peace.

Aside from thinking that the victim was falling asleep, Duenas also testified that he was scared that the victim was a threat to his safety and he was merely practicing self-defense.

Duenas told the court that after he got out of his vehicle and confronted the victim who was driving a pickup truck, the victim allegedly threw a punch that Duenas dodged and retaliated with a slap to the right side of the victim's face.

According to the victim's testimony, he did not throw the first punch and that he was just sitting in his vehicle when Duenas approached him.

The victim said that Duenas had a machete, but Duenas said he did have a machete in his vehicle but did not bring it with him when he confronted the victim.

A witness of the prosecution, Duenas's brother, said that he did not see a punch thrown by Duenas nor did he see Duenas back up as to dodge a punch during the altercation.

Kilili: 2017 GDP data to be announced

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) will get a first look at the 2017 gross domestic product data on Thursday morning, shortly before the information is made public.

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis director Brian C. Moyer will brief Sablan at 11:30am prior to meeting with Gov. Ralph Torres in the afternoon to release the economic growth numbers for last year.

Congress provides $750,000 to pay for production of the annual economic data. The funding covers American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Marianas.

GDP is the sum of goods and services produced in a territory, state, or nation over a given period of time and is a primary means of gauging economic health.

"Gross domestic product is so valuable to have in any policy decision-making," Sablan said. "To pass the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act, one of my key talking points was the conclusion by the Government Accountability Office that ending the CW program would cut GDP by 26 to 62 percent.

"That was language that everyone understands." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) opens the three-day Close Up Youth Summit on Saipan Tuesday at the Kanoa Resort.

House honors baseball champs

JON PEREZ

The House of Representatives present a resolution congratulating the CNMI Senior League baseball team for winning the Asia Pacific Regional Tournament earning them the right to represent the region in this year's World Series in Easley, South Carolina.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives presented the CNMI Senior League baseball team with a commendation after representing the Asia Pacific region in this year's World Series in Easley, South Carolina.

The team is composed of a selection of the best players from the teams that competed in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle Regional Tournament last July at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga.

Rep. Alice S. Igitol (R-Saipan) introduced House Resolution 20-38, which commends the CNMI team for beating their opponents in the annual regional tournament to earn their spot in the Senior League World Series.

The team lost to Guam, 10-3, and New Zealand, 4-3, but defeated Indonesia, 15-0 for a 1-2 record in the six-team field. They dispatched Hong Kong, 6-3, to arrange a semi-finals showdown with tournament leader Guam.

They pulled off a 9-2 upset over the highly favored Guam side to clinch a title matchup with host team Philippines, where they completed a 4-2 finals win.

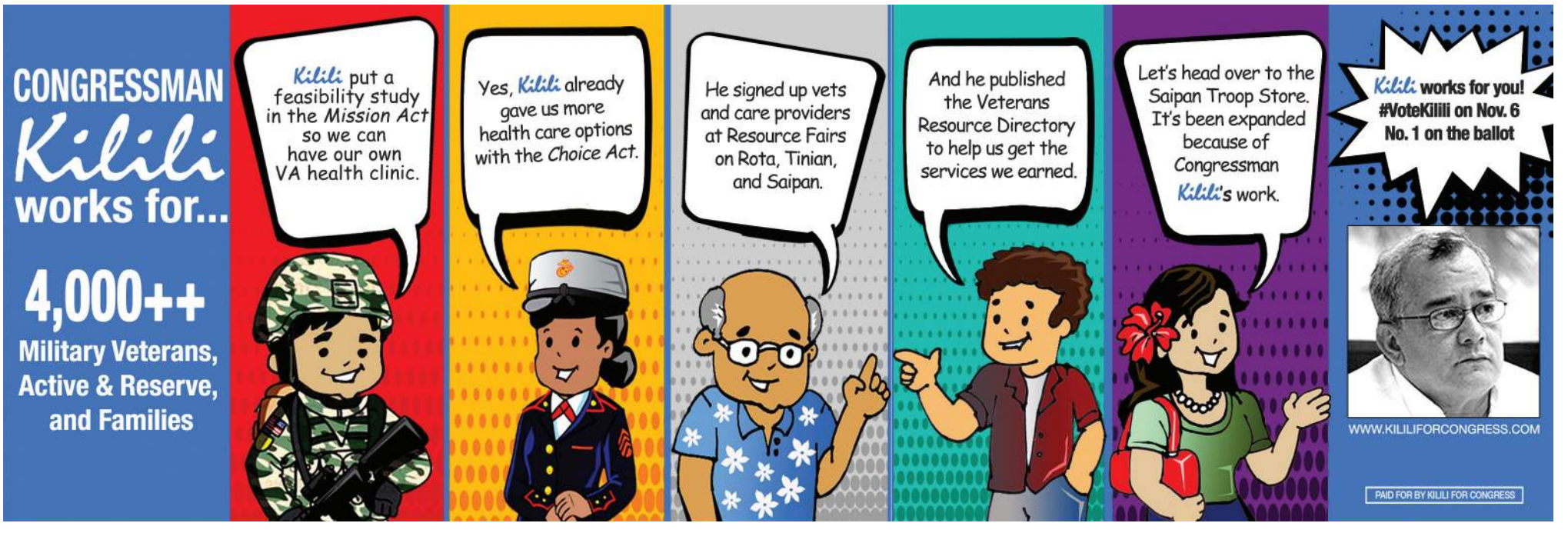
Igitol said the team's coaching staff, composed of manager Doru Camacho, head coach Juan Manibusan, and assistant Vicente Camacho, helped guide the children in pulling off the victory.

"The CNMI Senior League All-Star team was successful because of solid coaching and execution of fundamentals and discipline. The fans of the [team also] showed enthusiasm, support, and courtesy for the game," said Igitol.

"The [team's] performance demonstrated to parents and communities throughout the Asia Pacific region that athletic participation builds character and leadership in children. The achievements of the [team] is the cause of enormous pride for the CNMI, especially for the island of Saipan."

Leveque Iguel, Vicente Camacho II, Josenio Alvarez, Kianna Aldan, Pedro Maratita, Jordan Babauta, Dennis Cabrera, Justin Peter Celis, Aven Evangelista, Joaquin Fleming, Trevon Lieto, Ignacio Mendiola, Donovan Deleon Guerrero, Joel Norita, orren Cody Cruz, and Arby Yaguel were the members of the team.

Manager Camacho thanked the House for the commendation. "Thank you to all the members for this presentation. These guys [players], they are really awesome. We did our best and are proud to represent our islands. Good job [boys]."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And he published the Veterans Resource Directory to help us get the services we earned.
Let's head over to the Saipan Troop Store. It's been expanded because of Congressman Kilili's work.
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Man stabbed for confronting thief

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A man who allegedly stabbed another man who had tried to stop him from robbing the New Chang Ming Market is now facing charges in Superior Court.

Last Tuesday, the CNMI government filed a case against 43-year-old Ken Matzue for allegedly stabbing a man who stopped him from stealing four pieces of beer at the store last Saturday.

Matzue, who is detained at the Department of Corrections, faces a bail of $15,000 set by Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho.

Matzue is charged with assault with a dangerous weapon; preliminary hearing is on Oct. 22, 2018.

Matzue is prohibited from being near the victim and the New Chang Ming Market. He is also barred from traveling.

Matzue will be represented by Office of the Public Defender's Heather Zona and the government will be represented by assistant attorney general Robert Glass Jr.

According to the Department of Public Safety, police responded to a report of a robbery and stabbing incident at New Chang Ming Market in Garapan on Sunday night, Oct. 14.

The report states that police arrived at the scene of the crime last Sunday at 6:59pm and found the victim with lacerations on his chest.

During an interview with the victim, he told police that Matzue came into the store and went straight for the chiller where the beer was held. The victim said he allegedly saw Matzue place four cans of beer into his bag and walked over to the cash register with one beer in his hand.

The victim told policw that he followed Matzue to the counter to ensure that he pays for the beers in his bag but Matzue only paid for the one can he was holding in his hand.

After paying for the beer, the victim told Matzue to take out the four beers in his bag. When Matzue opened his bag, the victim took out the beers and did not realize that Matzue pulled a knife out of his right pocket.

Matzue allegedly stabbed the victim on his chest but the victim blocked the action and sustained a stab to the hand and small puncture to the chest.

The victim immediately ran away from Matzue and contacted 911 to report the incident.

WORKERS

From Page 1

scores of skilled Filipinos who were lured to jobs building the casino on Saipan. They arrived on Saipan in the middle of the year under H-2B visas that's required for construction workers. They began working at the Imperial Pacific Resort, which casino investor Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is trying to complete within the two-year extension period given to them by the CNMI Lottery Commission.

However, last Oct. 12, the contracts of Jose, his friend, and 68 other Filipino construction workers—masons, carpenters, and plumbers—were terminated despite having obtained a four-month contract extension—from Sept. 1, 2018 to Jan. 30, 2019. The job extension came on Aug. 31; also, their H-2B visas were renewed.

Marlon Cruz, another worker, had to go back to the Philippines to complete the process of his H-2B visa that expired after the stamp said he was a plumber when it should have been riveter. "The stamp on my visa was wrong and that's why I have to go back to Manila. I used my own money when supposedly they should have shouldered my expenses."

He told the *Saipan Tribune* that the U.S. Embassy in Manila issued him the H-2B visa and he updated IPI so the company could book him a return ticket to Saipan. Days passed and he did not receive any word until the visa issued to him again expired. He recently learned that 80 of his co-workers have been laid off.

"I was really expecting to go back once I told them that my visa renewal was approved. But I think I will no longer have that chance since I learned that my co-workers there were laid off. I'm out of work since I also resigned from my previous job since IPI had already hired me," he said.

IPI echoed a previous statement it released about the job terminations, that they are in the process of adjusting their workforce.

"The purpose of the reduction is to adjust the level of labor supply based on the demand of the construction project. This adjustment is in line with effective workforce planning and efficiency improvement of the project."

IPI also said the workers would be paid seven days of salary from the date they received the notice of termination and the company would shoulder these workers' return ticket to the Philippines.

All workers interviewed for this story asked that their names be withheld.

Assistance

The workers sought the help of the local Labor department, the Micronesian Legal Assistance Corp., the Office of the Philippine Honorary Consul to the CNMI, the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and foreign worker advocate Irene Holl.

There's a possibility that the workers may file a complaint with the National Labor Relations Commission in the Philippines. The Philippine Honorary Consulate's office said they would assist the workers in getting benefits at the Philippines' Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

They also filed a complaint with the MLAC where they stated that IPI did not state any reason why their employment contracts were terminated and that some of them have yet to be reimbursed for the cost of buying their protective equipment—goggles, hard hat, shoes, and vest—that they used at the site.

They added the notice that they are going to be provided seven days of salary is also incorrect. "[The] contract requires both seven days prior notice during which time I am entitled to work and be paid and an additional seven days of payment of separation and/or termination pay."

Some Filipino business owners also pitched in to help and even offered to provide temporary housing to all the displaced workers and other assistance that they could give.

Not our way

Torres and Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) met with some of the workers yesterday at the conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill to hear their concerns.

Other construction firms that are in need of laborers and other related positions had already approached some of the 80 workers.

Torres said he's going not going to promise anything but he would try to work something out to see if there's an opportunity for some of the workers to return as CWs based on the categories that are in demand in the CNMI. "We'll try to see if some of them has any opportunity of being CWs."

"I encourage other companies that are in need of electricians and other different categories to see if we can have at least some of them come back here."

Demapan said what happened to the workers was an unfortunate situation. "This is one of the issues that we have with the H-2B. That's why we made a strong push for CW because there's more certainty and stability [of jobs] in the program. But since we're under the federal control, we have to use H-2B visas."

"This is not the normal way we treat workers. This is not the normal way that we do business. We hope that when they return home, they return with good memories and to have the opportunity to come back and work again in the CNMI. They had provided their information and we will see who from this group can come back as CWs for positions that have no U.S. citizens available."

JOB

From Page 1

leged conspiracies going on between the administration and [Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC]," said Concepcion-Teregeyo.

"If there was a push to award it to IPI, I would have already lost my job because I have not awarded it to IPI and there's reasons for that. The secretary of DPL has a very high fiduciary duty, very different from the other departments. [DPL] is created by the [CNMI] Constitution, therefore there's a lot of requirements that needs to be met and we need to vet."

The issue at hand was the closure of the Mariana Resort & Spa and its surrounding facilities after the lease of Kan Pacific Saipan ended last Sept. 30. The Marianas Country Club, racetrack, and the Marpi pool also shut down.

Concepcion-Teregeyo said that, although she wants to see the pool remain open, after the local swimming federation and other members of the community clamored for it, "DPL is not in the business of operating a public pool. Our fiduciary duties are to manage public lands and not public pools."

She, however, said there would be a process that would be followed in reopening the pool where her department would put out three separate requests for proposals to temporarily maintain and operate the golf course, racetrack, and hotel.

"Once the RFPs are created and bids are submitted, the winning bidder for the racetrack and hotel would both submit funds to the Marpi pool, which then would be opened for public use," said Concepcion-Teregeyo.

"We have many factors playing in. We have the temporary hotel operator's agreement, temporary golf course operator's agreement, and temporary racetrack operator's agreement. These agreements could go for a year to three years."

She added that the RFPs are ready. "The RFPs will be published by the end of the week, for the operator's agreement for the golf course and racetrack. The hotel operator's [RFP] will be published two weeks after the closing of the golf course and racetrack. The Marpi pool will be the public benefit from the operator of the hotel and racetrack."

TERRORISM

From Page 1

"Our volunteers supported our first responders and those impacted by all disasters, including 9/11," said Atalig. "I saw this first-hand when I, along with 12 others from Saipan, [were] deployed to New York, New Jersey, and the Pentagon," Atalig recalled of her experience as an American Red Cross-NMI Chapter volunteer.

Atalig was one of the few who were stationed at assistance centers. "Day after day we met with families who were searching for loved ones and helping those living nearby cope with the trauma," she said.

Atalig recalled one particular phone call from the husband of a flight attendant who was on one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center.

"…He just wanted someone to talk to, so I stayed on the line with him for more than 30 to 45 minutes," Atalig said. She noted that the husband received a call from his wife during that flight, which Atalig said was rare as per their conversation.

"[Their] conversation was calm, so he didn't think anything of it—just that she called during her flight. The odd thing about this conversation was that this person who lost his wife was [collected] while I was breaking," she said.

Atalig said the husband had a 4-year-old at the time.

"I was breaking because I had a daughter who was 5 years older than theirs. I felt lost for this little girl but yet blessed and relieved that she had a father who found [positivity] in all this turmoil," she added.

"While we all saw graphic images on TV of thousands fleeing the area, first responders including firefighters, police, and municipal workers headed into the buildings, risking their own lives and many regrettably paying the ultimate sacrifice. No words can adequately describe their bravery and fearless dedication to duty. These first responders are our heroes," Atalig said.

The Field of Heroes, organized by TanHoldings Corp. and its charitable arm, the TSL Foundation, raises money that would be funneled toward the Northern Marianas Humanities Council to assist in their effort to help those with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.

TanHoldings vice president for Corporate Affairs Cathy Attao-Toves noted in a previous interview that, according to a 2018 study from the University of Phoenix, 80 percent of firefighters report being exposed to traumatic events; over 90 percent of police and emergency medical technicians report exposure to trauma; 85 percent of first responders experience symptoms related to mental health issues; and 34 percent of EMT personnel report being formally diagnosed with PTSD, 10 times the rate of the general population.

These numbers, coupled with the geographical challenges of the CNMI, make it difficult to treat PTSD.

Yesterday's Freedom Walk was specifically for Saipan while Tinian and Rota would be holding their own on separate dates.

On Tinian, the posting of flags was held last weekend and would be retired on Oct. 26, 2018. The Freedom Walk, followed by the 9/11 ceremony at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park, would be on Oct. 23, 2018.

On Rota, the posting of flags was also held last weekend and would be retired on Oct. 27, 2018. The Freedom Walk followed by the 9/11 ceremony at the Joaquin Ogo Baseball Field would be on Oct. 26, 2018.

CEC needs 94 poll workers for Nov. 6 election

The Commonwealth Election Commission needs 94 poll workers—47 each from the Republican Party and the Democratic Party—for the Nov. 6 general election.

CEC executive director Julita Arriola Villagomez said yesterday that the 94 poll workers must attend an orientation/workshop in order for them to qualify as poll workers.

Villagomez said the two political parties will be submitting a list of their prospective poll workers.

She said they need six poll workers for each of the 13 polling sites on Saipan, and six each for one polling place on Tinian and on Rota.

For the Northern Islands, CEC needs only four poll workers, or two each from the two political parties.

On Saipan, the election orientation will be at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Oct. 29 at 6pm.

On Tinian, the seminar will be at the Northern Marianas College-Tinian on Oct. 29 at 5:30pm. On Rota, it will held at NMC-Rota on Oct. 30 at 6pm.

At the orientation, CEC staff will brief poll workers on what to expect during election day and how to help those who need assistance, among other things, Villagomez said.

There will be a total of 13 polling places on Saipan because CEC added three more rooms, she said.

She said for Precinct 1B (San Vicente) there will now be two rooms at Dandan Middle School, and for Precinct 3B (Garapan area) there will be two rooms at Garapan Elementary School.

For Precinct 5 (Kagman area) there will also be two rooms at Kagman Elementary School.

The other polling places on Saipan are Precinct IA (San Antonio) at Hopwood Middle School, Precinct 1C(Koblerville) at Koblerville Youth Center, Precinct 2 (Chalan Kanoa/Susupe) at Joeten Kiyu Public Library, Precinct 3(A) (Oleai area) at Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, Precinct 4(A) (Tanapag) at Tanapag Middle School, Precinct 4B(San Roque) at Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, and Precinct 4C (Capital Hill) at Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building.

On Tinian (Precinct 6), the polling place will be the Tinian Elementary School, while on Rota (Precinct 7), it will be the Northern Marianas College-Rota.

Meanwhile, the CEC board will hold a meeting today, Thursday, at CEC's conference room at 1:30pm. Among the agenda are finalizing polling places, adoption of rules and regulations, and emergency regulations. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

6 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged six Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites include the DPW Channel Bridge, Civic Center Beach, Grandvrio Resort, Garapan Fishing Base dock, Chalan Kanoa District 2 drainage, and the San Antonio Lift Station.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Insurance firm donates $5K to JKPL

An insurance company on Saipan donated yesterday a hole-in-one cash prize for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament next week.

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc., led by president Shirley Sablan, donated $5,000 for the cash prize to anybody who makes a hole-in-one on hole No. 7 of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort West Course during the 4th Annual JKPL Golf Tournament on Oct. 27, 2018.

In a previous interview with acting JKPL director Beth Demapan, she noted that that the tournament helps finance library activities such as the Collaborative Summer Library Program and the Bookmobile Outreach Literacy Services, two of its most popular programs.

The programs also contribute to the steadily rising number of patrons visiting the library, which is at 104,224 in fiscal year 2017.

JKPL board chair George Camacho expressed gratitude for the donation.

"…Partnership with good people such as Pacifica Insurance as well as other agencies makes this event very successful," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune*. "…It just keeps growing. All the golfers on-island know about it, and hopefully everybody comes out that day."

Last year, the event raised about $10,000 for the library.

Pacifica Insurance's Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* in an email that the whole community benefits from the library. JKPL is the CNMI's lone state library.

"…[JKPL's] leadership and staff continue to do great things to keep our interest in reading alive. We are glad to have a bit of a hand in their growth," she said.

Show time for the golf tournament is at 6:30am, while tee time starts an hour later at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course. The first place winner will pocket $400, second place will get $350, third gets $300, fourth gets $250, and fifth gets $200.

Additional prizes include the longest drive award for hole No. 10 and the most accurate drive for hole No. 9 at $150.

The last day to register is next Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018. Contact JKPL at235-7315 for tickets and more information. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

JKPL notes over 100K visitors

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library recorded over 100,000 visits in fiscal year 2017 alone, a figure that continues to go up every year.

Acting JKPL director Beth Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* Tuesday that the library saw 104,224 visitors throughout fiscal year 2017: 21,806 adult borrowers, and 17,670 juvenile borrowers.

"It's not just interest in learning and books. It's also taking part in the free services we provide," said Demapan. "That just shows us that we are very active in engaging our community, providing not only a great collection of books [but also] making ourselves accessible to the community."

Even tourists come into the library to avail of library services, such as its selection of books and other literary works along with a specialized library for children.

Demapan noted that the success of the library would not be possible without both the support of the government and the private sector.

One of several programs offered by the library includes the children's section, known as the Children's Room or the Children of our Homeland Center.

A total of 74,166 patrons were served in the Children's Room in fiscal year 2017, with 777 joining the Read-Aloud and craft program as well as 588 class visits. A total of 1,511 participated in the summer library program.

The Bookmobile, or JKPL's "mini-library on wheels" has seen 57,677 patrons, issued 552 library cards, and received 4,811 library card applications. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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Torres signs 2 Senate bills into law

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed two Senate bills into law on Oct. 12, 2018.

Senate Bill 20-100, HD1, exempts a debtor from the one reinstatement requirement and allow the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. to negotiate an affordable payment scheme to allow the debtor to save their property and family home.

NMHC and the Rural Housing Service, formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, entered into a memorandum of agreement to provide housing for low- and moderate-income residents of the Commonwealth. Although many eligible residents avail themselves of the housing loan program, some have failed to make good on the loan after having been counseled. The MOA provides for satisfactory solutions and after the appeals process has been exhausted with RHS, NMHC is notified of the delinquency. After repayment of the debt in full, RHS assigns the deed of trust in favor of NMHC. After the assignment, NMHC has the authority to exercise the foreclosure and sell the property at public auction after the payment obligation is breached. The Legislature finds it necessary to assist those who had failed their loan obligation to RHS and the loan note and deed of trust have been assigned to NMHC.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed two Senate bills into law on Oct. 12, 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This bill allows NMHC to negotiate a payment solution to cure the default and restructure payment obligations.

Offered by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, this bill becomes Public Law 20-72.

The other bill that is now law, Senate Bill 20-71, SS1, SD1, HD1, establishes a nursing school scholarship for students admitted into the nursing program at the Northern Marianas College or at any other U.S. accredited institution.

Since the implementation of the Commonwealth-Only Transitional Worker Program, the Commonwealth has struggled to fill critical nursing positions at the hospital and other public health clinics. The Commonwealth will always need qualified nurses to fill critical positions at the hospital and public health clinics. The purpose of this legislation is to establish a nursing school scholarship for 20 eligible students that aspire to obtain an associate of science in nursing degree at the Northern Marianas College or at any other U.S. accredited institution. In exchange, the scholarship recipient must return to the Commonwealth and work at the Commonwealth Health Center, Tinian Health Center or Rota Health Center for a few years. The CNMI Scholarship Office will administer the nursing school scholarship consistent with the provisions of this legislation.

Offered by Senate President Arnold I. Palacios, Sen. Justo S. Quitugua, and Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar, this bill becomes Public Law 20-73. ***(PR)***

ABS-CBN's Lopez keynotes BOG sustainability talks

HAGATNA, Guam—Gina Lopez, a renowned philanthropist and sustainability advocate from the Philippines, headlined a full house of around 300 at Bank of Guam's 2018 Fall Economic Forum. This year's forum included a "Green Zone" which featured sustainability interests and entrepreneurs.

Joe Bradley, Bank of Guam senior vice president/chief economist, themed his biannual talk as the connection between the environment and economy, stating "the environment is our economy and the economy is our environment," while alerting the audience to similar tourist destinations facing outright closure due to polluted attractions. He also acknowledges that visitors from both South Korea and Japan come from very sustainable and environmentally aware communities and are looking for destinations that share similar values. Finally, he noted, "Guam can no longer postpone action to protect our primary civilian industry and the lifestyles we cherish."

Keynoting the forum was 2017 Seacology winner, Gina Lopez, who was recognized for "her untiring environmental advocacy in the face of powerful opposition" and chosen for the award for "showing exceptional achievement in preserving island environments and culture."

She was introduced by bringing attention to the idea that "sustainability is not an option for islands."

While Lopez was impressed by Guam's natural beauty, she alerted the audience to our risky dependence on imported food, stating that lack of fresh, local food is not healthy for the community. She then shared a number of examples of projects she is overseeing which are intended to not only clean up the environment but also provide a sustainable living for communities who are dependent on tourism, claiming that higher spending visitors are seeking unique experiences, farm-to-table food experiences and pollution-free natural environments.

Lopez, who served briefly as the Philippines' director of Environmental and Natural Resources, encouraged the audience to place priorities on healthy living and a healthy environment as a means of sustaining Guam's only civilian industry. She encouraged small actions by individuals and businesses to protect the primary source of our economic growth. "We are already learning lessons from Boracay and Maya Bay; assets that generate growth must be cared for."

Stating "it can't be just about the money," Lopez said that a values-driven economy can actually be more profitable. When communities benefit from their economy, they have a stake in their future and will actually care for the environment. When they don't benefit, they behave accordingly.

A panel of four community leaders, including Bradley and Lopez, was then convened to add Maria Leon Guerrero, Bank of Guam executive vice president and Fran Castro from the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability.

Student volunteers from Tiyan High School and Okkodo High School also staffed and attended the annual event. ***(BOG)***

Bank of Guam forum panel, left to right, Joe Bradley, Maria Leon Guerrero, Gina Lopez, and Fran Castro.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IX

Public Notice Date: September 25, 2018
Comment Period Closes: October 31, 2018

The U.S. EPA (USEPA) is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act. The USEPA is proposing to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal (No. MP0020371) to Tasi Tours and Transportation, Inc. for the Managaha Island wastewater treatment facility located near Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

The facility serves a daily tourist population averaging 1,400, receiving only domestic sewage with a design flow of 0.005 million gallons per day (MGD). The treatment plant is a small-scale Johkasou package plant which consists of influent flow equalization-denitrification, membrane separation aerated activated sludge with flocculation, settling and disinfection. The plant provides secondary treatment. Sludge is thickened and stored for disposal at the Marpi Solid Waste Landfill, or for hauling off-site by boat to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's Sadog Tasi WWTP (NPDES Permit No. MP0020010). Treated effluent is discharged to a nearby leach field distribution box located 150 feet inward of the north shoreline of Managaha Island and flows into the groundwater in an aquifer matrix comprised of beach sand with a direct hydrological connection to nearby Class A marine waters by the Tanapag Harbor of Saipan. Class AA coastal and oceanic waters are protected for their natural pristine state as nearly as possible with an absolute minimum of pollution or alteration of water quality from any human-related source or actions. Other uses to be protected are the support and propagation of shellfish and other marine life, conservation of coral reefs and wilderness areas, oceanographic research, and aesthetic enjoyment and compatible recreation with risk of water ingestion by humans.

EPA is soliciting comments on the proposal. EPA will consider all comments received during comment period before taking final action. To submit comments, or to obtain additional information including the proposed permit and administrative records, please contact:

Linh Tran, (415) 972-3511; email: Tran.Linh@epamail.epa.gov
EPA Region IX (WTR-2-3)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Website:
https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/public-notices-meetings-and-events-pacific-southwest
***Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons who would be interested in this matter. ***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 21, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

"PATIENT REGISTRATION FURNISHING, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2018 AT 9:00AM. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND TO VIEW THE SPACE AND MAY TAKE MEASUREMENTS AND ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

TRANSLATION SERVICES
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-003

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

ORAL HEALTH EVALUATOR
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

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THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-004

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

PROGRAM AND EVALUATION CONSULTANT
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

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THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Manibusan mum on ruling in case vs ex-DPS chief, ex-cop

The Office of the Attorney General remains mum about the CNMI Supreme Court's denial of the government's petition to order the Superior Court to reinstate the charge of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree against former Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and former police officer Jesse Salas Concepcion.

When asked about the government's next move in this case following the high court's decision, OAG's public information officer Carla Torres said that Attorney General Edward Manibusan does not have any comments at this time.

Former assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley, who argued the case before the high court, have expressed disappointment with the ruling but more about why it took the high court so long to decide on the case.

"Really the most disappointing thing about the opinion is how long it took to issue," said Baisley, who is now an associate at the BakerHostetler law firm in Denver.

Baisley recalled that the Office of the Attorney General filed the original petition in June 2016 and the high court issued its opinion only last Thursday.

"A two-plus year delay is hard to understand," said Baisley.

In its ruling issued last Thursday, the CNMI high court also denied the government's request for the justices to order Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja to recuse Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho from the case.

In the high court's decision, the justices said they find Camacho's determination logical.

Camacho presided over the case. In 2016, Camacho dismissed without prejudice the charges against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion. That means the OAG may re-file the charges.

Camacho found no probable cause as to the charges of conspiracy to commit sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree as the government has produced no evidence that Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion conspired to have sex with a minor.

Camacho also found no probable cause for the two counts of misconduct in public office as the government has presented no evidence that the alleged offense occurred.

The judge earlier also dismissed without prejudice the charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree filed each against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion. He found that the government failed to prove essential element of the offense.

With Camacho's ruling, the government then filed a petition for a writ of mandamus before the CNMI Supreme Court. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Scheduled power outages

There will be scheduled power interruptions on Oct. 20 and Oct. 23.

On_Oct. 20, 2018, the outage will occur from 5am to 12pm and will affect Chalan Pale Arnold in Chalan Laulau. It will affect the Middle Road and Quartermaster traffic light intersections. No water well service area or wastewater service area will be affected. One power pole will be replaced.

The Oct. 23 power outage will affect Industrial Drive in Lower Base. It will also affect the Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Puerto Rico.

No water well service area will be affected but the wastewater service area in Sadog Tasi and Puerto Rico will be affected. One power pole will be replaced.

The purpose of the power interruptions is to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. linemen to replace wooden poles with concrete poles. The scheduled power interruptions are a continuation of CUC's ongoing Hazard Mitigation Project that focuses on strengthening and hardening CUC's power distribution system through the replacement of 787 wooden poles with concrete poles.

Of the 787 wooden poles to be replaced, 774 pole replacements have been made by CUC and its contractor.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. ***(PR)***

Deadline to comment on OVR policy reset

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the State Rehabilitation Council would like to announce that the deadline for submission of public comments on OVR's revisions to its Supported Employment Policy, has been extended to Oct. 31, 2018. If you have any questions contact Josephine Tudela at jo@ovrgov.net or at 670-322-6537/8. ***(PR)***

Andersen Air Force Base sets annual exercise

Andersen Air Force Base is scheduled to conduct an Operational Readiness Exercise from Nov. 5 to Nov. 8. This exercise satisfies an annual requirement in accordance with Air Force Installation Mission Assurance Exercise Requirements to maintain operational readiness and is not focused on any specific threat.

Expect increased noise and activity to include sound effects, messages from loud speakers, sirens and noise from alert vehicles. Visual effects such as smoke may also be visible.

The exercise will involve various training scenarios and is intended to prepare airmen to conduct various base functions in a high-risk environment. The exercise is a routinely scheduled event to ensure ongoing readiness of Airmen.

In the event of a real situation the exercise will be terminated and the base will be notified through the official Andersen Air Force Base Facebook page, AtHoc notification system and the base loudspeakers. ***(PR)***

SSHS reports out Friday

Saipan Southern High School would release its mid-progress reports this Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, from 4pm to 6pm. Please stop by your child's classroom to pick up the mid-progress report. ***(PR)***

MyPros hosts candidates' forum

The Marianas Young Professionals, in cooperation with the Northern Marianas College and Public School System, will host a candidate forums today, Oct. 18, at Kagman Elementary School and will feature lieutenant governor candidates. Doors open at 5:30pm.

Questions will be provided by members of Million Dollar Scholars high school clubs, as well as from higher education students both on and off island. MyPros will invite young professional membership, working in government and private businesses around island, to submit questions as well.

"We will broadcast the forums on social media to reach a larger viewing audience but we are hosting these forums at public schools so that more people can attend in person. Our goal is to inform our membership, and the public, by providing an equitable platform to discuss important ideas," said MyPros executive director Gerard van Gils.

Founded in 2015, MYPros is an independent non-profit organization that aims to create pathways for students and young professionals to realize their potential as community leaders of the CNMI. ***(PR)***

Library closed on Saturday, Oct. 27

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Saturday, Oct. 27, in lieu of the 4th Annual Friends of the Library Golf Tournament. If interested in participating in the tournament or for more information, call the library at 235-READ. ***(PR)***

CHamoru commission meeting reset

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) has postponed its monthly meeting to Oct. 18, Thursday, from 12:30pm to 3pm, at the former Guam Museum building or the Garden House in Hagåtña.

Work sessions will also be held on Thursday, Oct. 25, 12:30pm to 3pm at the same venue. ***(PR)***

Military training at FDM, W-517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Oct. 18, from 11am to 10pm
- Oct. 19, from 10am. to 10pm

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. ***(PR)***

UOG association to host senatorial forum

The University of Guam Political Science Student Association will be hosting a 2018 Senatorial Forum Series. The forum series will feature Democrat and Republican candidates running for a seat in the 35th Guam Legislature. The forums will take place on Oct. 23, 24, and 25, from 5pm to 7pm at the University of Guam CLASS Lecture Hall.

The topics that will be addressed in this forum are economic development, political status, environmental sustainability, and UOG related issues. The audience will also have an opportunity to ask the candidates questions.

PSSA continues to promote the study of government and politics, enhance the awareness and facilitate discussion about politics, and relevant issues in current public affairs. PSSA encourages students to explore the field of politics outside the classroom and to act as an outlet for students who wish to expand their knowledge in academia, extend their networking boundaries, and increase active involvement in public events. Part of this mission is to provide service to the local community, as we believe that serving others contributes to the formation of good citizens. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW19-IFB-001

SAIPAN & NORTHERN ISLANDS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUILDING

Governor Ralph DLg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Saipan & Northern Islands Municipal Council Building**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 4, 2018** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, located in Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, is required to defray the cost of printing the package.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 23, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 31, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening**.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW19-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time November 14, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 14, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@cnmidof.net**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 14, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 23, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 28, 2018.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on November 14, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission**. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the

face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

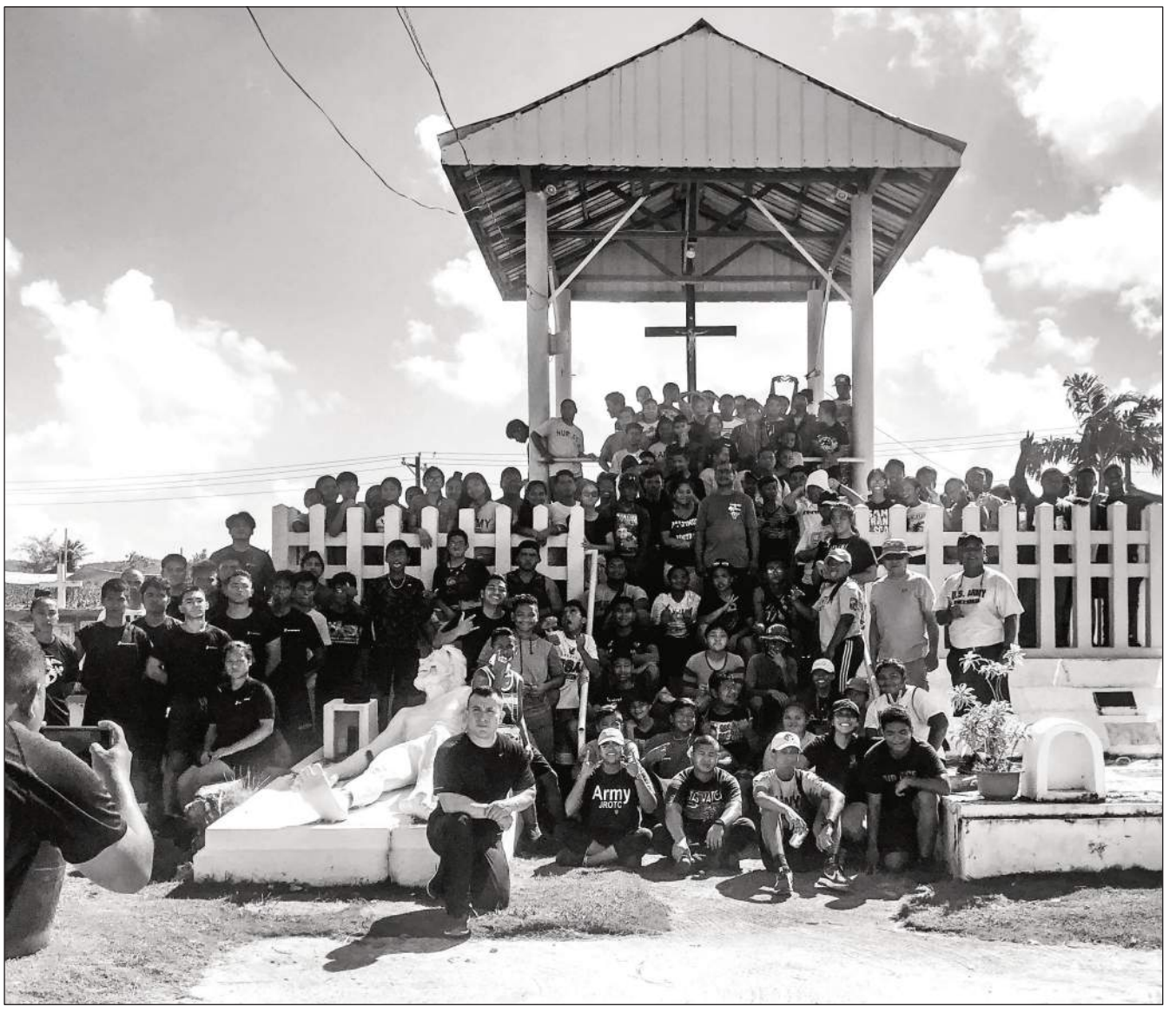
Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Seventy (270) consecutive calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Fifty (US$350.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

JROTC cadets, Marine recruits clean up cemetery



The Manta Ray Battalion, Ayuyu Battalion, and the U.S. Marine Corps recruits pose together for a photo after the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery cleanup.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cadets of the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Battalion gathered at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery, along with Kagman High School's Ayuyu Battalion and new recruits of the U.S. Marine Corps, on Oct. 13, 2018, to clean up the cemetery in preparation for the All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day celebrations on Nov. 1 and 2.

The CNMI's predominantly Catholic community traditionally visit the graves of family members and loved ones on Nov. 1 and Nov. 2.

A total of 130 cadets attended the early morning cleanup last Oct. 13. The Manta Ray Battalion, led by battalion commander, cadet/LTC Nicole Malasarte, and the supervision of senior Army instructor CSM Richard S. Basa, spruced up the north side of the cemetery.

More than 200 bags of trash, debris, worn-out flowers, and candles were gathered in less than four hours.

Community volunteer Max Aguon also took part in the cemetery cleanup by providing transportation to take out the bags of trash.

The purpose of the cleanup is to prepare the cemetery for the upcoming observance of All Saint's Day and All Soul's Day.

"As a community, we should better ourselves by showing respect to those who have been buried. Trash should be properly disposed of. …As cadets, or leaders, we demonstrate dedication to citizenship, knowledge of civic responsibilities, and self-discipline. We encourage others to participate in such cleanups that will benefit a community," the Manta Ray Battalion said in a statement. ***(PR)***

Members of the Manta Ray Battalion form up at the front of Chalan Kanoa Cemetery prior to the cleanup.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 200 trash bags were collected by the Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School JROTC, and Saipan Marine recruits.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cadets gather trash and worn out candles at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Scholarship for nursing students OK'd

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has signed into law a bill that creates a scholarship program for students enrolled in the nursing program at the Northern Marianas College or other U.S. accredited institution.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) introduced Senate Bill 20-71, SS1, SD1, HD1 with Sens. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) and Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) as co-authors.

S.B. 20-71 is now Public Law 20-73, which aims to fill the critical need for nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center. Most nursing positions at CHC has usually been filled with foreign hires.

The Commonwealth faced a nursing crisis in the middle of this year after the available slots for foreign workers in the Commonwealth became filled and not one of the hospital's 111 nurses were chosen in the lottery for the 4,999 slots at stake.

The CNMI got relief after President Trump signed the NMI Workforce Act of 2018—introduced by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah) and co-sponsored by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP)—last July that increased the numerical cap to 13,000.

"The [CNMI] will always need qualified nurses to fill critical positions at the hospital and public health clinics. The purpose of this legislation is to establish a nursing school scholarship for 20 eligible students that aspire to obtain an associate of science in nursing degree at [NMC] or any other U.S. accredited institution," said Torres in a statement.

"In exchange, the scholarship recipient must return to the [CNMI] and work at [CHC], Tinian Health Center, or Rota Health Center for a few years. The CNMI Scholarship Office will administer the nursing school scholarship consistent with the provisions of this legislation."

Torres, early this year, said he is eager to sign the bill into law since healthcare is a critical component of the community. The new law provides financial assistance to local students to encourage them to take up a nursing degree to fill the CNMI's healthcare needs.

Palacios' parents were medical professionals that worked at the hospital.

Another NMC graduate passes NCLEX on first attempt

Another Northern Marianas College graduate has joined the list of students who have passed the challenging National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses or NCLEX-RN.

Hannah Alcordo, who graduated from NMC this past May, recently took the exam and passed on her first attempt.

Alcordo

The NCLEX-RN tests an individual's nursing knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. The exam is used by nursing boards in all U.S. states and territories to award nursing licenses.

"We are extremely proud of Hannah's accomplishment as well as the other nursing students who have been able to reach this important milestone of passing the NCLEX," said NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico.

Recent NMC graduates who have also passed the NCLEX include Yalan Liu, Lahaina Gatchalian, Honey Jane Ebuen, and Bryan James Balboa.

"Hannah has a bright future in the nursing field and we expect to see great things from her as her educational and professional journey continues," said NMC Nursing Department chair Rosa M. Tudela. "We wish Hannah the best on her future career in health care."

"Pursuing nursing as a career had not been my first choice. I was like most freshmen students, I was unsure of what I wanted to pursue," said Alcordo. "All I wanted to do was to help people and the community while also be in a field that would give me stability and opportunities for growth and nursing had been one of those fields of study.

"NMC and its instructors provided me the resources and push I needed to prepare for the exam," said Alcordo. "Even when I thought the resources were too expensive and the instructors were a bit too demanding, looking back now, I know that all of that was for my benefit."

Asked what advice she would give other students who are preparing to take the NCLEX, Alcordo said, "Find a study routine that fits you. Know your strengths and weaknesses with content and test taking, as well as your own learning style. When you have your plan, stick to it. But don't beat yourself up if you fall off the bandwagon. Just make sure you catch and pick yourself up and stay dedicated to your ultimate goal, which is passing the NCLEX."

For more information about the NMC Nursing program, contact the NMC Nursing Department at 237-6744 or visit the Nursing Department office in Building C at the NMC As Terlaje campus, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4:30pm. ***(NMC)***

2018 Field of Heroes

American flags celebrating the sacrifices of servicemen are posted at the American Memorial Park during yesterday's celebration of Field of Heroes.
ERWIN ENCINARES

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Color Guard perform their routine during yesterday's celebration of Field of Heroes at the American Memorial Park.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Members of the public support the 3rd Annual Field of Heroes Freedom Walk from Garapan Fishing Base to the site at the American Memorial Park.
ERWIN ENCINARES

National Park Service superintendent Barbara Alberti opens the 9/11 remembrance ceremony.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, right, prepares to lay a wreath at the American Memorial Park during yesterday's celebration of Field of Heroes.
ERWIN ENCINARES

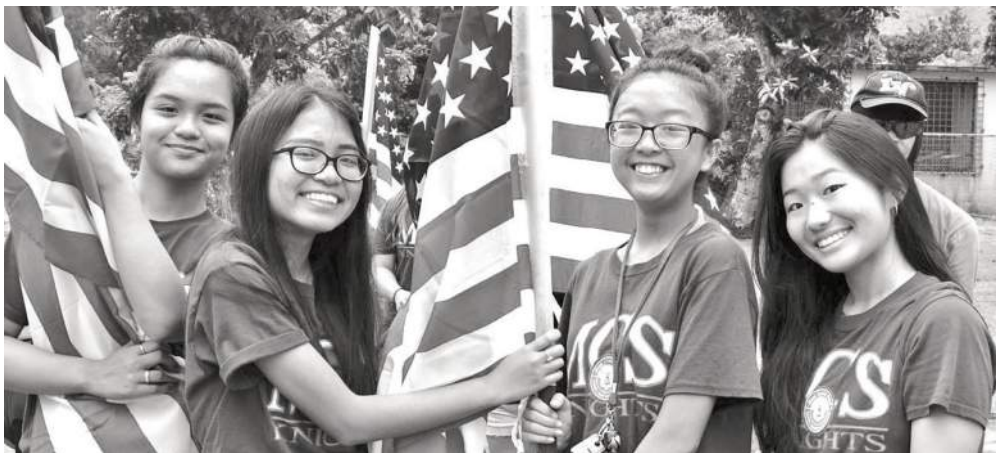
Participating members of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services wear their pink shirts for cancer awareness during the 3rd Annual Field of Heroes celebration at the American Memorial Park.
ERWIN ENCINARES

People wait for the start of the Field of Heroes celebration at the American Memorial Park.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Members of the Department of Public Safety are on standby for the 21-gun salute.
ERWIN ENCINARES

American Red Cross NMI Chapter volunteer Claudine Atalig shares her experience being at Ground Zero after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.
ERWIN ENCINARES

People came out in support of the 3rd annual Field of Heroes at the American Memorial Park yesterday.
ERWIN ENCINARES



Mount Carmel School students volunteer to help set up the 2018 Field of Heroes at American Memorial Park.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TanHoldings Corp. president Jerry Tan, left, joins Mount Carmel School students volunteer after helping set up the 2018 Field of Heroes at American Memorial Park.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Killing baboons is bad PR? Who knew?

DREAMSTIME

Killing primates like baboons and then bragging about it may not be the best PR move.

Most Americans don't hunt, but they're OK with other people doing it. It helps that it's a familiar part of American history, that it's a common source of food and that most of the harvesting occurs out of the view of those who might blanch at it.

Most, but not all. Idaho Game and Fish Commissioner Blake Fischer not only brought his pastime to the attention of people he doesn't know but rubbed their noses in it. After a hunting trip to Namibia, he treated a large circle of acquaintances to photos of his exploits—notably, one of him grinning over primates he had taken with a bow. His wife, on her first visit to Africa, wanted to see him hunting. "So I shot a whole family of baboons," he crowed.

It doesn't take a genius to know that any sentence that begins, "I shot a whole family ... " is bound to turn off some folks. The fact that baboons bear a distinct resemblance to humans makes hunting them particularly problematic. Then there's the matter of killing beasts for mere fun. Fischer might have realized the need for some discretion, at least.

Lacking that, he brought down an avalanche of anger on his own head when the images started circulating. Twitter lit up with the photo (and others of Fischer posing with other animals he had slain), eliciting comments such as one from "NCIS" actor Pauley Perrette: "What kind of monster kills giraffes and a family of baboons, including a mother clutching her baby, to impress his wife?"

Fischer didn't offend just Hollywood types. Former Ida-

See KILLING on Next Page

MIKE SMITH DIST. BY KFS/NAS 2018
LASVEGASSUN
MY DAD SAID WHEN HE WAS A KID, THEY HAD TO DRIVE TO A STORE TO BUY STUFF.
NEW
SEARS FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY
PEOPLE HAD IT SO ROUGH IN THE OLDEN DAYS.
AMAZON

National anthem controversies are nothing new

By WILLIAM J. THOMPSON
THE BALTIMORE SUN

With the continuing and unresolved issue of National Football League players kneeling (or remaining in the locker room) during the playing of the National Anthem before games, one is reminded of two incidents involving the anthem: Both occurred 50 years ago this month, during an unpopular war abroad and domestic unrest at home, and sparked loud reaction and widespread denunciation.

The first incident was the rendition of the National Anthem in a slow, "bluesy" manner by the Puerto Rican American pop singer Jose Feliciano before Game 5 of the 1968 World Series in Detroit, between the Tigers and the St. Louis Cardinals on Oct. 7. The second came nine days later on the 16th when, during the medal ceremony after the 200 meter track and field race at the Summer Olympics in Mexico City, gold medalist Tommie Smith and bronze recipient John Carlos each raised a black-gloved fist while the Star Spangled Banner was being played.

Mr. Feliciano, whose rendition of The Doors hit "Light My Fire" shot up to No. 3 on the Billboard Hot 100 listings during the summer of 1968, was invited by Detroit Tigers' (and one-time Baltimore Orioles') announcer Ernie Harwell. Some in the crowd began booing even before Mr. Feliciano had finished. The telephone switchboard at Tiger Stadium was jammed with hundreds of angry callers, and NBC, which telecast the game, received numerous complaints from viewers at its headquarters in New York. Later, the American Legion passed a resolution of censure, and Harwell got hate mail and nearly lost his job.

Perhaps the strangest impact of the lengthy Star Spangled Banner rendition was on Detroit's starting pitcher Mickey Lolich, whose pre-game warm-up routine was disrupted, which may have contributed to the Cardinals scoring three first-inning runs off him. Still, Detroit, which was down 3 to 1 in the series, rallied in the seventh inning on a two-run single by Hall of Famer (and Baltimore native) Al Kaline, and the Tigers won 5 to 3. In winning the next two games in St. Louis, Detroit completed one of the great comebacks in World Series history, with Mr. Lolich winning three games.

The protest in Mexico City at the 1968 Summer Olympics originally began as a proposed boycott by African-American athletes organized a year earlier at San Jose State University, where Messrs. Smith and Carlos were on the track team. While the boycott eventually faded (though college basketball star Lew Alcindor—later Kareem Abdul-Jabbar—did skip the Olympics), the decision was made to express some statement while at the games.

When the 200-meter race was run on Oct. 16, Tommie Smith won the gold medal in world record time, and John Carlos won the bronze in third. (Peter Norman of Australia won silver.) At the medal ceremony, both U.S. athletes mounted the stand shoeless in black socks, symbolizing African-American poverty; each wore a black glove on one hand (both intended to wear gloves on each hand, but after Mr. Carlos forgot his, Mr. Norman—sympathetic to the Americans' cause—suggested each wear one glove from Smith's pair). When the Star Spangled Banner was played, both Mr. Smith and Mr. Carlos raised their gloved hands (Smith, right; Carlos, left) in what was interpreted as a "black power" salute, though both claimed it was about human rights.

Quickly, the protest came to the attention of International Olympic Committee officials, including the American president of the IOC, the autocratic Avery Brundage, who ordered the U.S. Olympic Committee to suspend Messrs. Smith and Carlos, and after threatening to ban the entire American track team, the two athletes were kicked out of the Olympic Village, left Mexico City and returned to San Jose, where they were greeted as heroes on campus and by the African-American protest movement.

Media response also came quickly. While some were sympathetic to the athletes protest—such as ABC sportscaster Howard Cosell, who interviewed Mr. Smith in Mexico City, and sportswriter Red Smith, who said the USOC did not know the difference between "politics and human rights"—most in the press were outraged and condemned the Olympic athletes for supposedly dishonoring the anthem and the flag.

Nine days, two events involving the National Anthem, 50 years before the present controversy about athletes and the Star Spangled Banner. The intersection between sports and politics and national symbolism has frequently been a complicated matter in American life. And in a country that values free expression, but also honors what the nation stands for, it no doubt always will be.

William J. Thompson is a Baltimore historian, teacher, and writer.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

How to shop for Medicare health and drug plans

By GREG DILL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Greg Dill is Medicare's regional administrator for Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific territories. You can always get answers to your Medicare questions by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

When you shop for a new car or truck, you don't just buy the first one you see, do you?

Probably not. You shop around, looking for the best deal you can get on a vehicle that fits your driving needs as well as your pocketbook.

Well, it's the time of year when you can shop for a Medicare health or drug plan.

Medicare's open enrollment period began on Oct. 15 and runs through Dec. 7, 2018.

If you have Original Medicare, meaning that you can choose any doctor or hospital that accepts Medicare, you don't need to think about open enrollment.

But if you have a Medicare Advantage (Part C) health plan, or a Medicare (Part D) prescription drug plan, you may want to see whether there's another plan on the market that would be a better match for you, at a lower price.

If you're enrolled in a plan and you're happy with it, you don't need to do anything.

But Medicare health and drug plans—run by private insurers approved by Medicare—can change from year to year. A plan can raise its monthly premium or drop a medicine that you need.

So it makes good sense to review your coverage each year. Make sure your plan still is a good fit for you in terms of cost, coverage, and quality.

If it isn't, look for another plan.

During open enrollment, you can sign up for a Medicare Advantage health plan or Part D prescription drug plan, or switch from one plan to another. Your new coverage will take effect Jan. 1, 2019.

How do you shop for a new plan?

One way is the "Medicare & You" handbook, mailed each fall to every Medicare household in the country. This booklet lists all the Medicare health and drug plans available where you live, along with basic information such as premiums, deductibles, and contacts.

There's also the Medicare Plan Finder, at www.Medicare.gov.

Look for a green button that says, "Find health & drug plans." Click on that, plug in your zip code, and you'll see all of the Medicare Advantage and Part D plans available in your area. You can compare them based on benefits, premiums, co-pays, and estimated out-of-pocket costs. Contact information for the plans is listed.

The Medicare.gov website also can help you decide whether Original Medicare or Medicare Advantage is better for you, and can help estimate your out-of-pocket costs with either type of coverage.

Each Medicare health and drug plan has been assigned a star rating of from one to five stars, with five stars being the best in terms of quality.

If you don't have access to a computer, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Our customer service representatives can help you with questions about Medicare health and drug plans. The call is free.

Another terrific resource is the State Health Insurance and Counseling Program.

SHIP is an independent, nonprofit organization that provides free, personalized counseling to people with Medicare. You can make an appointment to speak with a SHIP counselor in-person or over the phone.

SHIP counselors are well-trained volunteers who often are enrolled in Medicare themselves, so they know the issues. They can help you sort through different health and drug plans and find one that's right for you. They're not salespeople and they won't try to sell you a specific plan.

To contact your local SHIP office, go to www.shiptacenter.org.

If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan as of Jan. 1, 2019 but you're not satisfied with it, you have a 3-month window to dis-enroll. Between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2019, you can drop your plan and return to Original Medicare (and join a standalone Medicare prescription drug plan).

Having trouble paying for your Part D plan? You may be eligible for the Extra Help program, which helps cover your premiums, deductibles, and co-pays. Medicare beneficiaries typically save about $4,000 annually with Extra Help.

For more information about Extra help, go to www.SSA.gov/prescriptionhelp.

KILLING

From Page 10

ho Fish and Game Commissioner Fred Trevey urged him to resign "to shield the commission as an institution and hunting as a legitimate tool of wildlife management from the harm that is sure to come." Keith E. Carlson, another former commissioner, agreed: "I don't know how you can say anything good about a photo of a guy smiling with a stack of dead baboons with a baby in front."

The object of all this criticism seemed baffled by the response. "I didn't do anything illegal," he told the Idaho Statesman. "I didn't do anything unethical. I didn't do anything immoral." Killing baboons, he argued, is a form of wildlife management just like that practiced in the United States with various creatures.

Fischer doesn't seem to appreciate the distinction most people make between seeking food and bagging trophies for kicks. Most Americans, polls indicate, accept the former and oppose the latter.

There is also the matter of sensible restraint. Fischer paid no heed to the recommendation in Idaho's hunter education guide: "Refrain from taking graphic photographs of the kill and from vividly describing the kill within earshot of non-hunters." Sharing gruesome pictures is a good way to give hunters a bad name.

Even in hunter-friendly Idaho, Fischer may find he has bought himself a lot of needless trouble. After Minnesota dentist Walter Palmer killed Cecil the Lion in Zimbabwe, he was widely vilified and had to suspend his practice because of picketing and safety concerns.

If Fischer wants to continue doing things that most people find offensive, he might want to skip the photos and emails next time. As any savvy game animal knows, high visibility is a good way to wind up in the crosshairs.

(c)2018 *Chicago Tribune*

Tech is the new scary story—but why?

By JENNIFER HUDDLESTON SKEES
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

It's October, which means our televisions and theaters are full of stories of supernatural mayhem. More recently shows like "Black Mirror" and movies like "Ready Player One" portray mayhem wrought not by ghosts and monsters, but by out-of-control technology that feels just plausible enough to incite a different kind of fear. Even the news stokes worries of new, disruptive technologies: Robots will take our jobs, driverless cars will kills us, and—for those who really want a scare—algorithms in a virtual reality will eventually make our decisions.

But as the great ghost debunker Scooby Doo and his gang might say, let's see what these fears really are. Some might be nothing more than the figurative sad old man in a mask.

Our fears of new technology, much like our fears of things that go bump in the night, are nothing new. In 1565, a respected scientist warned that people would become overwhelmed with information due to a particularly dangerous new piece of tech: the printing press. Now we know that Johannes Gutenberg's invention spurred a gigantic leap forward for humanity.

Women were once warned to stay away from dangerous new trains as their bodies were clearly not designed to be subjected to the speed of 50 miles per hour. The introduction of cars and subways brought their own sensational fears.

More recently, the rise of the VCR was alleged by Motion Picture Association of America head Jack Valenti to be "to the American film producer and the American public as the Boston strangler is to the woman home alone." Instead, it came to a hugely profitable for the very industry it was supposed to kill.

It's easy to look back and laugh—but that's because we've already apprehended the alleged "ghost" and exposed it. Still, every time we realize that we have nothing to fear from one technology, like microwaves or electricity, we hear a new noise in the attic and are convinced that this time the monster is real.

Today these fears are rampant in our reactions to new, disruptive technologies like the aforementioned artificial intelligence, robots, and driverless cars. No matter how many times the story plays out, we look down the storm drain and see a technological Pennywise luring society to its peril.

Being cautious and thoughtful about the ramifications of a new technology is one thing. After all, not every idea will successfully make consumers' lives better and safer. But it's quite another to allow fears of unlikely worst-case scenarios to prevent us from even trying. When we call for policymakers to "do something" about a strange and unfamiliar idea that promises to upset the status quo, we can limit potentially life-saving innovations.

Take driverless cars, which have the potential to eliminate the human error behind most car accidents. Robots can perform dangerous tasks which currently require humans to risk their lives, like flying over forest fires and collecting nuclear material. AI is already being used to improve cancer detection and develop genetics-based approaches to medication.

In reality, most of our fears are driven by nostalgia, generational differences, and existing industry special interests. As my colleague Adam Thierer points out in a 2013 study, the serious consequences of "technopanics" can include animosity between citizens, distrust of institutions, the disguising of actual risks, and an unhealthy level of control over information and innovations.

Airplanes were once an outlandish pursuit; today they're the safest way to travel. The Internet was our bogeyman less than a generation ago; today it's a normal part of everyday life. If we follow the lead of those Scooby and those meddling kids in the Mystery Machine, we'll see that the dark figure plaguing Elm Street isn't really Freddie Krueger.

GARY REYES/BAY AREA NEWS GROUP/TNS
A driverless car is on display at Google Headquarters in Mountain View, Calif., on Sept. 25, 2012.

Jennifer Huddleston Skees is a research fellow with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University's Innovation and Governance Program.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼78°

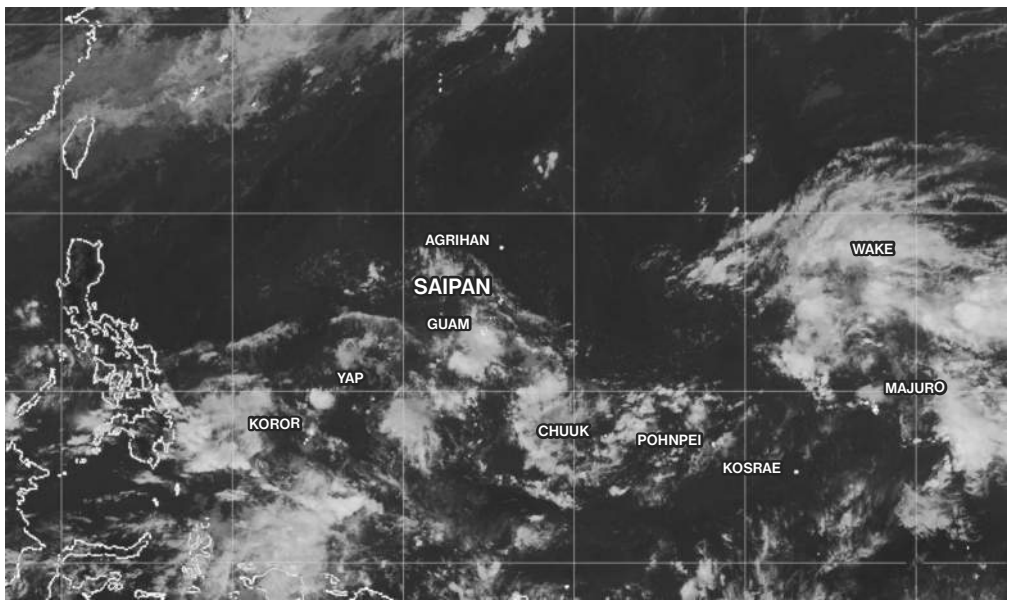
FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. North winds around 10 mph.
▲89° ▼78°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼78°

SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼78°

MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:16 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows a surface trough to the west of the Marianas waters. Thunderstorms along the trough axis are seen along a line from 12N143E to 16N144E. The weather balloon from last night shows southeast winds 5 to 15 knots through the lowest 5 thousand feet of the air. Above this the winds become variable then shift to the west at around 11 thousand feet. They then vary between northwest and southwest and between 5 and 15 knots through almost 50 thousand feet. The buoys show combined seas of 3 to 4 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	64° / 54°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	64° / 39°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	81° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 74°
London	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Los Angeles	Sunny	84° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	81° / 54°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°
New York	Mostly Sunny	51° / 40°
Osaka	Showers	72° / 57°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	72° / 52°
Busan	Sunny	66° / 52°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	79° / 59°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	75° / 56°
San Francisco	Sunny	65° / 53°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	64° / 41°
Tokyo	Showers	64° / 55°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	63° / 43°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
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TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
1:05 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.37
08:40 AM	LOW TIDE	0.27
4:11 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.69
10:11 PM	LOW TIDE	1.07

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:54 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Sunday	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Monday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:33 AM	1:41 PM
Friday	-	1:22 AM	2:24 PM
Saturday	-	2:11 AM	3:05 PM
Sunday	-	3:01 AM	3:45 PM
Monday	-	3:50 AM	4:24 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

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SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Canada now world's largest legal marijuana marketplace

TORONTO (AP)—Ian Power was among the first to buy legal recreational marijuana in Canada but he has no plans to smoke it. He plans to frame it.

Canada became the largest country with a legal national marijuana marketplace as sales began early Wednesday in Newfoundland. Power was first in line at a store in St. John's, Newfoundland.

"I am going to frame it and hang it on my wall. I'm not even going to smoke it. I'm just going to save it forever," Power said.

And there was more good news for pot aficionados: Hours before a handful of retail outlets opened in the country's easternmost province a federal official told The Associated Press that Canada will pardon all those with convictions for possessing up to 30 grams of marijuana, the now-legal threshold.

A formal announcement was planned for later Wednesday. The official, who was not authorized to speak public ahead of the announcement, said those who want to take advantage of the pardons will have to apply.

Canada has had legal medical marijuana since 2001 and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government has spent two years working toward expanding that to include recreational marijuana. The goal is to better reflect society's changing opinion about marijuana and bring black market operators into a regulated system.

AP

A depiction of a cannabis bud drops from the ceiling at Leafly's countdown party in Toronto on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018, as midnight passes and marks the first day of the legalization of cannabis across Canada.

Uruguay was first was the first country to legalize marijuana.

In St. John's, Newfoundland, hundreds of customers were lined up around the block at the private store on Water Street, the main commercial drag in the provincial capital, by the time the clock struck midnight. A festive atmosphere broke out, with some customers lighting up on the sidewalk and motorists honking their horns in support as they drove by the crowd.

"Prohibition has ended right now. We just made history," said the 46-year-old Power, who bought a gram. "I can't believe we did it. All the years of activism paid off. Cannabis is legal in Canada and everyone should come to Canada and enjoy our cannabis."

Tom Clarke, an illegal pot dealer for three decades, was among the first to make a legal sale in Canada when his store opened at midnight local time in Portugal Cove, Newfoundland. He made the first sale to his dad. A crowd of 50 to 100 people waited outside and cheered him.

"This is awesome. I've been waiting my whole life for this," Clarke said. "I am so happy to be living in Canada right now instead of south of the border."

Clarke, whose middle name is Herb, has been called THC for years by his friends. His dad, Don, said he was thrilled he was among the first customers of legal pot.

"It's been a long time coming. We've only been discussing this for 50 years. It's better late than never," he said.

The Newfoundland stores are among at least 111 legal pot shops expected to open across the nation of 37 million people on Wednesday, with many more to come, according to an Associated Press survey of the provinces.

Canadians also can order marijuana products through websites run by provinces or private retailers and have it delivered to their homes by mail.

Alberta and Quebec have set the minimum age for purchase at 18, while others have made it 19.

No stores will open in Ontario, which includes Toronto. The most populous province is working on its regulations and doesn't expect stores until next spring.

Ryan Bose, 48, a Lyft driver in Toronto, said it's about time.

"Alcohol took my grandfather and it took his youngest son, and weed has taken no one from me ever," he said.

A patchwork of regulations has spread in Canada as each province takes its own approach within the framework set out by the federal government. Some are operating government-run stores, some are allowing private retailers, some both.

Canada's national approach has allowed for unfettered industry banking, inter-province shipments of cannabis and billions of dollars in investment — a sharp contrast with national prohibition in the United States.

Nine U.S. states have legalized recreational use of pot, and more than 30 have approved medical marijuana. California, the largest legal market in the U.S., earlier this month became the first state with a law mandating expungement of criminal convictions for marijuana-related offenses that no are longer illegal.

Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon said it's time for the U.S. government to follow Canada's lead.

Sears' bankruptcy will have ripple effect, not all of it bad

NEW YORK (AP)—Sears' Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing will have ripple effects on everything from landlords to suppliers to workers.

Many vendors, which had already enforced stricter payment terms on Sears, are refusing to ship merchandise to stores. The company will further shrink its workforce, which has already been reduced to 68,000 as of the bankruptcy filing from 90,000 earlier this year.

But there are some positives. For mall landlords, a Sears departure could be welcome relief and an opportunity to attract new tenants that could bring in more revenue and customers.

The company's restructuring plan calls for 142 store closures by year's end, reducing the company to a little over 500 stores—a dramatic drop from its peak of 4,000 stores in 2012.

Here's a look at the bankruptcy's impact:

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SUPPLIERS?

Suppliers won't get hit as hard as when Toys R Us filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy and then liquidated a few months later, experts say. That's because many suppliers, nervous about Sears not paying their bills, have increasingly tightened their payment terms to protect themselves, according to Michael Cipriani, executive vice president of Rosenthal & Rosenthal, a company that makes cash advances to suppliers based on the goods they sell to merchants. Even his firm has stopped offering insurance to suppliers who want to sell to Sears.

Brett Rose, CEO of United National Consumer Suppliers, a wholesale distributor of overstocked goods, had been selling to Sears for several years. But last year it required Sears to pay upfront before shipping to the retailer. Since June, the company, which sells to off-priced retailers like T.J. Maxx, hasn't shipped to the retailer.

"It's sad," Rose said. "We hoped we would be part of their solution."

Sears said in Monday's court filing that about 200 suppliers have stopped or refused to ship merchandise to the company in the past two weeks, further crippling its business.

Still, there will be plenty of vendors who will feel pain because of the Sears bankruptcy. Several big name suppliers, including Frigidaire, Samsung and Whirlpool, were among the top 20 unsecured creditors and were owed between $23 million and $5 million, according to court documents.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE REAL ESTATE?

Mall landlords overall are seeing the Sears bankruptcy as a positive, industry experts say.

To be sure, there are plenty of struggling malls that will have a hard time finding a tenant to fill the void. It often takes 18 months to 36 months to replace a typical department store, says CBRE, a commercial real estate service.

But many mall landlords are feeling optimistic. For years, they've been grappling with Sears' poor-performing stores at their shopping centers, making it more challenging for them to lease space to tenants near those stores.

Many of the malls Sears occupies are in healthy shopping destinations. According to Co-Star Group, a leading commercial real estate research firm, Sears is in 76 percent of the top two tier malls that it tracks, or malls that generate at least $350 per square feet. The remainder is in the bottom third tier.

"A Sears leaving is an opportunity to bring in a more modern tenant," said Drew Myers, a consultant at Co-Star.

Mall owner CBL carved up what used to be an old Sears at the CoolSprings Galleria near Nashville, Tennessee and brought in such retailers as H&M and American Girl. Combined, those new stores generated four to five times the revenue of Sears, according to CBL CEO Stephen Lebovitz. He noted that the redevelopment lifted sales of the overall mall by 18 percent.

WHAT ABOUT THE WORKERS?

The Chapter 11 filing will further shrink Sears' workforce, which has already been reduced to 68,000 as of the filing Monday, from 90,000 as of early this year. At its height, Sears had 350,000 employees.

Sears didn't respond to emails about how many workers will lose their jobs with the latest store closures. But even employees like John Germann, whose store in Chicago Ridge, Illinois, has been spared for now, is feeling uncertain about his future.

Germann, who loads merchandise from trucks, said conditions got so bad that he connected with the local chapter of the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union, which unionized the team at his store three years ago.

"We didn't have anyone else to turn to," he said.

Sears said it intends to pay workers' wages and benefits without interruption. It held a meeting for employees at its corporate headquarters and other corporate locations on Tuesday

John Challenger, CEO of Chicago-based outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas sees some hope.

"It's a good economy," said Challenger "So, they're coming in the market at a better time."

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Nation

Florida reporting 16 deaths after Michael, other states 10

Hurricane Michael killed at least 16 people in Florida, most of them in the coastal county that took a direct hit from the storm, state emergency authorities said Tuesday. That's in addition to at least 10 deaths elsewhere across the South.

Here are some of the circumstances under which people died:

A sign touts solidarity among residents, Friday, Oct. 12, 2018 in Mexico Beach, Fla. Mexico Beach, Florida was devastated when Hurricane Michael made landfall on Wednesday in the Florida Panhandle. AP

FLORIDA:

- Unidentified man in Gadsden County killed by falling tree on Oct. 10, confirmed by Gadsden County Sheriffs Office.
- Unidentified man in Mexico Beach, Bay County, found in destroyed home, confirmed by search and rescue team.
- Unidentified woman in Mexico Beach, Bay County, found in destroyed home, confirmed by city mayor.
- Unidentified man in Jackson County killed by falling tree on Oct. 10, confirmed by Jackson County emergency officials.
- Unidentified person in Gulf County found in destroyed home, confirmed by district medical examiner's office.
- Unidentified man in Bay County unable to receive needed dialysis because of power outage, confirmed by district medical examiner's office.
- Unidentified woman in Bay County needing electricity for medical treatment during power outage, confirmed by district medical examiner's office.

VIRGINIA

- Bradford Clark, 43, a firefighter in Hanover County, died when he was hit by a tractor-trailer while responding to a crash on Oct. 11, confirmed by state police.
- James E. King, 45, of Pittsylvania County was swept away from his car during a flash flood on Oct. 11, confirmed by state police.
- William Lynn Tanksley, 53, of Danville was swept away from his vehicle during a flash flood, confirmed by state police.
- Jennifer B Mitchell, 60, of Danville was stranded inside a vehicle overrun by flash flood, confirmed by state officials.

NORTH CAROLINA

- Unidentified man of Iredell County died Oct. 11 when his car was struck by a tree, confirmed by state officials.
- Unidentified woman, 64, of McDowell County died Oct. 11 when car smashed into a tree, confirmed by state emergency officials.
- Unidentified man of McDowell County died Oct. 11 when car smashed into a tree, confirmed by state emergency officials.

GEORGIA

- Sarah Radney, 11, of Seminole County died Oct 10 when struck by carport structure that smashed into home, confirmed by state emergency officials.

State and local officials in Florida have not released circumstances for other deaths listed in the state Division of Emergency Management's tally of 16 storm fatalities. ***(AP)***

Murder charge for grandmother after toddler found in oven

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—The death of a 20-month-old girl found stabbed and burned inside an oven of a Mississippi Delta home led to a murder charge Tuesday against the child's grandmother, authorities said.

Bolivar County Sheriff Kelvin Williams Sr. said 48-year-old Carolyn Jones was charged with first-degree murder in the death of Royalty Marie Floyd in the town of Shaw.

"I've been doing law enforcement for 25 or 26 years now," Williams told The Associated Press. "This is one of the most horrible things I've seen in doing law enforcement. The hardest part ... is to see a child victim."

He said authorities had no immediate answers in the death of the woman's granddaughter.

Jones made an initial appearance Tuesday evening before a judge, who set bail at $500,000. Jones remained jailed and it wasn't immediately clear if she had a lawyer who could speak for her.

Sheriff's officials said Floyd lived with Jones while Floyd's mother lived elsewhere.

Williams said Jones' brother found the body Monday night and called police in Shaw, a town of about 2,000 people approximately 100 miles (160 kilometers) northwest of Jackson. Police in turn called the sheriff's office and others for assistance.

AP

This photo provided by the Bolivar County Sheriff's Office shows Carolyn Jones, 48, who was taken into custody in Mississippi, Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018.

Spokesman Warren Strain at the Mississippi Department of Public Safety said investigators are still probing for the cause of the girl's death, as well as when exactly the girl died and whether that was before she was placed in the oven. The child's body has been sent to the state Crime Lab in Pearl for an autopsy, though Williams said autopsy results were not yet complete on Tuesday.

Jones was arrested when police arrived at the home and held overnight for questioning while charges were readied, the sheriff said.

"That was the only person who was there with the child at the time," Williams said.

Authorities said they had no immediately information about the circumstances leading up to the child's death.

"That's hard to say," Williams said. "We don't know."

The sheriff said the murder charge was filed after consultations with Bolivar County District Attorney Brenda Mitchell.

Mitchell didn't immediately return a phone call and an email seeking comment Tuesday.

The child was found inside a beige frame house in the north end of Shaw. Police tape still surrounded part of the house Tuesday morning, while a stroller, a high chair, and a trash barrel of toys including a scooter sat near the curb in front of the house. Williams said those toys had belonged to the child.

Neighbors said they rarely saw anyone coming in and out of the home.

ACROSS THE NATION

No winning Mega Millions ticket; jackpot climbs to $868M

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—No winning lottery ticket was sold for the latest Mega Millions drawing, meaning the jackpot climbs to $868 million. Mega Millions officials say no tickets matched all six numbers to claim the estimated $667 million grand prize in Tuesday night's drawing. The numbers were 3, 45, 49, 61, 69 and Mega Ball 9. The next drawing will be Friday. The estimated jackpot for that drawing would be the second-largest lottery prize in U.S. history. The record lottery jackpot was a $1.6 billion Powerball prize won in January 2016. The jackpot has been growing since July, when a group of California office workers won $543 million. It costs $2 to play the game, but the odds of winning the jackpot aren't good. The chance of matching all six numbers and taking home the grand prize is one in 302.5 million.

NASA astronaut describes close call following failed launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The NASA astronaut who survived last week's failed launch and emergency landing knew he needed to stay calm. Air Force Col. Nick Hague on Tuesday described the closest call of his career: His space capsule violently ripped from his damaged rocket shortly after liftoff, then with lights flashing and alarms sounding, plunged steeply back to Earth with punishing force. Hague said he and his commander, Russian Alexei Ovchinin, were flung from side to side and shoved back hard into their seats, as the drama unfolded 50 kilometers (31 miles) above Kazakhstan last Thursday. One of the four strap-on boosters failed to separate properly two minutes into the flight to the International Space Station and apparently struck the core rocket stage, resulting instantaneously in a rare launch abort. It was the first aborted launch for the Russians in 35 years and only the third in history. Like each one before, the rocket's safety system kept the crew alive. Hague—the first American to experience a launch abort like this—communicated in Russian throughout the more than half-hour ordeal.

$3M settlement reached over missing stop sign in fatal crash

FREEPORT, Ill. (AP)—A northern Illinois county has agreed to a $3 million settlement with the family of a pregnant woman who was killed in a crash at a rural intersection where a stop sign was missing. The May 2013 crash near the Stephenson County village of German Valley happened when 32-year-old Sarah Kamp drove into the intersection while on her way to a prenatal checkup. The Rockford Register Star reports police said the stop sign had fallen down because of weather damage. Kamp family attorney Tim Mahoney says negligence caused her death because a motorist had called 911 an hour earlier about the missing stop sign, but the operator took another call and forgot about it. Stephenson County State's Attorney Carl Larson says he hopes the settlement provides closure for Kamp's family.

Asia

China says interning Muslims brings them into 'modern' world

BEIJING (AP)—China on Tuesday characterized its mass internment of Muslims as a push to bring into the "modern, civilized" world a destitute people who are easily led astray—a depiction that analysts said bore troubling colonial overtones.

The report is the ruling Communist Party's latest effort to defend its extrajudicial detention of Central Asian Muslim minorities against mounting criticism.

China's resistance to Western pressure over the camps highlights its growing confidence under President Xi Jinping, who has offered Beijing's authoritarian system as a model for other countries.

About 1 million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other minorities have been arbitrarily detained in mass internment camps in China's far west Xinjiang region, according to estimates by a U.N. panel. Former detainees say they were forced to disavow their Islamic beliefs in the camps, while children of detainees are being placed in dozens of orphanages across the region.

The report by the official Xinhua News Agency indicated that key to the party's vision in Xinjiang is the assimilation of the indigenous Central Asian ethnic minorities into Han Chinese society—and in turn, a "modern" lifestyle.

Xinjiang Gov. Shohrat Zakir said the authorities were providing people with lessons on Mandarin, Chinese history and laws. Such training would steer them away from extremism and onto the path toward a "modern life" in which they would feel "confident about the future," he said.

"It's become a general trend for them to expect and pursue a modern, civilized life," Zakir said, referring to the trainees. He said the measures are part of a broader policy to build a "foundation for completely solving the deeply-rooted problems" in the region.

China has long viewed the country's ethnic minorities as backward, said James Leibold an expert on Chinese ethnic polices at Melbourne's La Trobe University.

AP

In this Nov. 4, 2017 file photo, Uighur security personnel patrol near the Id Kah Mosque in Kashgar in western China's Xinjiang region.

Leibold described Beijing's perspective on minorities as: "They're superstitious, they're deviant, they're potentially dangerous. The role of the party-state is to bring them into the light of civilization, to transform them."

Despite growing alarm from the U.S. and the United Nations, China has maintained that Xinjiang's vast dragnet of police surveillance is necessary for countering latent extremism and preserving stability.

The Turkic-speaking Uighurs (pronounced WEE-gurs) have long resented restrictions placed on their religious practices. They say they experience widespread discrimination in jobs and access to passports.

In the Xinhua report, Zakir said authorities provide free vocational training in skills geared toward manufacturing, food and service industries. Zakir said "trainees" are paid a basic income during the training, in which free food and accommodations are provided.

The report appeared aimed at disputing accounts provided by former detainees, who have said they were held in political indoctrination camps where they were forced to denounce Islam and profess loyalty to the party.

Ethnic Uighurs and Kazakhs have told The Associated Press that ostensibly innocuous acts such as praying regularly, viewing a foreign website or taking phone calls from relatives abroad could land one in a camp.

Zakir said the training centers were for people "who are influenced by terrorism and extremism, and those suspected of minor criminal offenses" who could be exempted from criminal punishment.

Zakir did not say whether such individuals were ever formally charged with any crime or provided a chance to defend themselves against the allegations. The report also did not say if attendance was mandatory, though former detainees have said they were forcibly held in centers policed by armed guards.

Maya Wang, senior China researcher at Human Rights Watch, said the system deprived detainees of basic legal protections such as access to lawyers.

The authorities' attempts to justify the camps "illustrate what the 'rule of law' in China means—that the party bends it to its will and uses it as a weapon against perceived political enemies," Wang said in an email.

Zakir did not say how many people were in such courses, but said some would be able to complete their courses this year.

Zakir seemed to try to counter reports of poor living conditions within the camps, saying that "trainees" were immersed in athletic and cultural activities. The centers' cafeterias provide "nutritious, free diets," and dormitories are fully equipped with TVs, air conditioning and showers, he said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistan executes man convicted of killing 8 children

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—A man convicted of killing eight children was executed at a Pakistani prison early Wednesday after the country's top court rejected a request for his public hanging, officials said. Mohammad Imran was hanged in the eastern city of Lahore in the presence of the father of 7-year-old Zainab Ansari, whose rape and murder in January ignited nationwide outrage. Imran was arrested two weeks after he threw the body into a garbage dump in the city of Kasur in Punjab province. After his arrest, Imran confessed to the other slayings and was convicted by a court. Other courts later upheld his death sentence. "Imran was taken to the gallows just before dawn and he has been hanged with a rope in the presence of magistrate and a doctor," local police official Mohammad Afzal said. Zainab's father, Mohammed Amin Ansari, was allowed to witness the execution. Ansari had demanded that Imran should be hanged at some public place in order to deter others, but the judges rejected his plea this week. Shortly after witnessing Imran's execution, Ansari thanked the judiciary, government and investigators for giving them speedy justice. "My daughter will not come back, but I am satisfied that we got justice," he said.

US defense secretary sees the enduring costs of Vietnam War

BIEN HOA, Vietnam (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is getting a firsthand look at the enduring costs of fighting the Vietnam War. Mattis visited an air base north of Ho Chi Minh City that was heavily contaminated in the late 1960s and early 1970s by American forces through storage and spillage of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange. Four years ago the U.S. pledged to clean and restore the parts of Bien Hoa (bee-yen WAH') air base that were contaminated. The U.S. Agency for International Development soon will begin a soil restoration project at the base estimated to take several years and cost $390 million. Reporters who traveled to Vietnam with the defense secretary were forbidden to attend an outdoor briefing for Mattis by USAID officials and others. And the USAID officials who spoke to reporters prior to the briefing refused to be quoted by name, saying they were not authorized to do so. The officials said soil excavation at the base is scheduled to start next year, with contractors arriving at Bien Hoa by December.

Australia shifts on refusal to send refugees to New Zealand

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The prime minister has signaled that he could accept New Zealand's longstanding offer to resettle 150 refugees exiled to Pacific islands as long as the Australian Parliament legislates to ban them from ever setting foot in Australia.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Wednesday he was willing to brief non-government senators on the travel ban bill. "There is no support for that bill at present," Morrison told reporters.

The center-left opposition Labor Party argues that a lifetime ban on refugees ever visiting Australia on a tourist or business visa was unnecessary and against Australia's interests.

The conservative government is under mounting pressure to relax its five-year-old policy of banning asylum seekers who come by boat from ever settling in Australia.

The policy has effectively ended the people smuggling traffic, but concerns are mounting over the fates of hundreds of asylum seekers languishing in an immigration camp on Nauru and male-only facilities on Papua New Guinea.

Morrison's policy shift could also be influenced by a crucial by-election in a progressive Sydney electorate on Saturday. At stake is the government's single-seat majority in the House of Representatives and Morrison's ability to govern without doing deals with independent lawmakers.

Three government lawmakers have recently appealed to Morrison to accept families with children from Nauru so they can receive adequate medical care.

The U.N. refugee agency last week called on the government to "urgently address a collapsing health situation" on the islands and immediately bring the asylum seekers to Australia.

The United States has agreed to resettle up to 1,250 refugees from the islands. But only 462 had found new homes in the United States in the past 14 months, Refugee Action Coalition spokesman Ian Rintoul said.

New Zealand citizens are allowed to live and work in Australia for life, a unique status the government fears banished refugees would use as a backdoor into Australia.

The previous prime minister, Malcolm Turnbull, had said in March that Australia would not consider other options for resettling refugees until the United States fulfilled its commitment.

Rintoul said a plane carrying 17 men from Papua New Guinea for the United States on Tuesday could be the last.

"All the Iranians, Syrians, Iraqis and Somalis are being rejected, so America's taken pretty much all that they're going to take," Rintoul said.

There were still 1,337 refugees and asylum seekers on the islands, a government statement said on Wednesday.

World

Pompeo lands in Turkey as probe into Khashoggi case heats up

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—A pro-government Turkish newspaper on Wednesday published a gruesome recounting of the alleged slaying of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, just as America's top diplomat arrived in the country for talks over the Washington Post columnist's disappearance.

The report by Yeni Safak adds to the ever-increasing pressure on Saudi Arabia to explain what happened to Khashoggi, who vanished Oct. 2 while visiting the consulate to pick up paperwork he needed to get married.

■ ■ ■

ISTANBUL (AP)—Police searching the Saudi Consulate found evidence that Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi was killed there, a high-level Turkish official said Tuesday, and authorities appeared ready to also search the nearby residence of the consul general after the diplomat left the country.

The comment by the Turkish official to The Associated Press intensified pressure on Saudi Arabia to explain what happened to Khashoggi, who vanished Oct. 2 while visiting the consulate to pick up paperwork he needed to get married.

The crown prince "told me that he has already started, and will rapidly expand, a full and complete investigation into this matter. Answers will be forthcoming shortly," Trump said in a tweet.

The president later appeared to take a stronger stance in defense of Saudi Arabia, criticizing the global condemnation against the kingdom and comparing it to the allegations of sexual assault leveled against now-Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation hearing.

"Here we go again with you're guilty until proven innocent," Trump told AP in an interview.

■ ■ ■

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told journalists before leaving Riyadh on Wednesday that Saudi leaders, including King Salman and his son, the 33-year-old Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, "made no exceptions on who they would hold accountable."

"They made a commitment to hold anyone connected to any wrongdoing that may be found accountable for that, whether they are a senior officer or official," Pompeo said.

However, no major decision is made outside of the ultra-conservative kingdom's ruling Al Saud family. Khashoggi had fled the country last year amid the rise of Prince Mohammed, whom he wrote critically about in the Post.

The Yeni Safak report cited what it described as an audio recording of Khashoggi's slaying, which it said showed the writer was tortured.

The newspaper said Saudi Consul General Mohammed al-Otaibi could be heard on the tape, telling those allegedly torturing Khashoggi: "Do this outside; you're going to get me in trouble."

The newspaper said one of the Saudis torturing Khashoggi replied: "Shut up if you want to live when you return to (Saudi) Arabia."

Saudi officials have not responded to repeated requests for comment from The Associated Press in recent days. Al-Otaibi left Turkey on Tuesday afternoon, Turkish state media reported.

Security services in Turkey have used pro-government media to leak details of Khashoggi's case, adding to the pressure on the kingdom.

President Donald Trump, who earlier warned of "severe punishment" if the kingdom was found culpable for Khashoggi's disappearance, criticized the allegations against the kingdom and compared it to the accusations of sexual assault leveled against now-Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation hearing.

"Here we go again with you're guilty until proven innocent," Trump told the AP in an interview.

That attitude does not appear to be shared with Congress, as one prominent Republican senator said he believed that the crown prince, widely known as MBS, had Khashoggi "murdered."

"This guy has got to go," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Republican from South Carolina, speaking on Fox television. "Saudi Arabia, if you're listening, there are a lot of good people you can choose, but MBS has tainted your country and tainted himself."

On Tuesday, a high-level Turkish official told the AP that police found "certain evidence" of Khashoggi's slaying at the consulate, without elaborating. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing.

Police plan to search the Saudi consul general's home, as well as some of the country's diplomatic vehicles, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said. Leaked surveillance video shows that diplomatic cars traveled to the consul general's home shortly after Khashoggi went into the consulate.

Police put up barricades around the consul's official residence Tuesday night. The search, however, did not happen overnight and reasons for that weren't immediately clear.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo talks to the media before leaving Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018. AP

Chaldean cardinal says promised US aid for Iraq hasn't come

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The head of Iraq's Chaldean Catholic Church complained on Tuesday that promised U.S. aid for religious minorities in Iraq hasn't materialized, issuing an unusual public rebuke of the United States on the same day Washington announced a new infusion of assistance.

Cardinal Louis Raphael I Sako spoke at a Vatican briefing as Mark Green, USAID administrator, was at the Vatican for talks and announced a near doubling of funding—to about $300 million since last year—and on-the-ground results.

"There are promises, but the reality is that there's been nothing up to now," Sako said, when asked about the U.S. aid. "Today, we need to help and encourage Christians to remain in place, help them to find work, repair their homes, give them a hope. Emptying these places is a mortal sin, truly."

He praised Hungary by contrast, saying it had provided $5 million in direct assistance to repair Christian homes, schools and churches in Iraq and Syria rather than take refugees in.

Sako was asked, in a follow-up question, if he was referring to complaints about missing aid from U.S. Catholic charities or the U.S. government.

"I am speaking about the policy of America," he said. "Americans, they are very nice and very friendly as individuals, but the policy is wrong."

It wasn't immediately clear if he was referring to the U.S. policy overall in the region, but he suggested that the U.S. invasion of Iraq, which gave way to years of instability that facilitated the birth of the Islamic State group, was responsible for the exodus of Iraqi Christians from communities that have existed since the time of Jesus.

"We Christians of the Middle East, if we leave, we will have lost our identities, our tradition, our patrimony which is very, very rich," he said. "But America, up to now, hasn't done anything. But we hope."

Trump warns of aid cut over migrant caravan now in Guatemala

CHIQUIMULA, Guatemala (AP)—U.S. President Donald Trump threatened Tuesday to cut aid to three Central American nations if they let people travel to the U.S. illegally, reacting to a caravan of some 2,000 migrants advancing through Guatemala with hopes of reaching the U.S. border.

Late Tuesday, Trump said via Twitter that the U.S. had conveyed the same message to the governments of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, telling them that U.S. aid will stop if they allow migrants to travel from or across their countries with the intent of entering the United States without permission.

"Anybody entering the United States illegally will be arrested and detained, prior to being sent back to their country!" he addee.

Amid the tweeting, the migrants continued their trek. Despite having walked all day Monday with swollen, blistered and aching feet, the group rose shortly after sunrise from sleeping on the ground in their clothes in the town of Esquipulas.

Dozens attended Mass at the basilica in the city just across the border from Honduras and about 90 miles (150 kilometers) east of Guatemala City. The migrants resumed their journey escorted by Guatemalan police and covered some 30 miles to arrive in the town of Chiquimula for the night.

The group's numbers have snowballed since about 160 migrants departed Friday from the Honduran city of San Pedro Sula, with many people joining spontaneously carrying just a few belongings. A Guatemalan priest estimated more than 2,000 were fed at three shelters run by the Roman Catholic Church.

Three weeks before midterm elections in the United States, the caravan elicited a tough response from Trump.

Earlier Tuesday, Trump had aimed his threat at Honduras.

However, the Central American nation's ability to do anything appeared limited as the migrants already crossed into Guatemala on Monday, twice pushing past outnumbered police sent to stop them—first at the border and then at a roadblock outside Esquipulas.

Trump did not follow through on a similar threat to the Central American nation in April over an earlier caravan, which eventually petered out in Mexico.

In a statement, Honduras' Foreign Ministry accused unidentified "political sectors" of organizing the caravan with "false promises" of a transit visa through Mexico and the opportunity to seek asylum in the United States.

It urged the migrants not to let themselves "be used by a movement that is obviously political and seeks to upset governability, stability and peace in Honduras and the United States."

Environment

Incredibly grim' prognosis on global warming also carries clarion call for action

By LAURA KING, LIAM DILLON AND SHASHANK BENGALI
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON—A major new report on global warming makes a chilling prediction: Without swift and sweeping worldwide intervention, some devastating effects of climate change will hit harder — and decades sooner — than previously expected.

The report, released Monday by a U.N. organization, served as a stark reminder of President Donald Trump's status as a global outlier in terms of climate change — and illustrated the degree to which California is at loggerheads with the White House on environmental questions.

Trump has rejected the 2015 Paris agreement signed by 195 nations to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, expressed skepticism about human-caused climate change and vowed to increase coal-burning. A State Department official, asked about the report, declined to endorse specific findings or recommendations, saying that was not the role of governments.

California Gov. Jerry Brown, however, said the report showed that "the world must radically change."

"The big powers — the United States, China, India and the European Union — must show the way," the Democratic governor said in a statement. "We can do it, but only if the deniers, the skeptics and the comfortable wake up to what the scientists are telling us."

Without dramatic steps to reduce use of fossil fuels and lessen the release of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the air, global temperatures could reach a tipping point in only a dozen years, the 728-page report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned.

That could mean that within less than a generation, the planet could see even more catastrophic wildfires, worsening food shortages and a mass die-off of coral reefs, among other effects, the authors said.

Written and edited by 91 leading climate scientists from across the globe, the report amounts to a blaring klaxon call for change, experts said — but one rendered in dry, dispassionate scientific language.

"Not only is this report the scientific gold standard, if there's anything wrong with it, it's that the assumptions are conservative," said Joel Clement, a senior fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

The reality, he said, "may be even worse."

The first major international scientific survey commissioned under the landmark Paris climate accord, the report offered a roadmap for staving off some of the most damaging environmental effects.

It called for keeping future human-caused warming to 0.9 degrees Fahrenheit, as opposed to the previous agreed-upon cap of 1.8 degrees F. Global temperatures have already risen an average of about 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit above pre-industrial levels.

Holding the warming increase to that lower range would still mean plenty of environmental harm, but with less dire projected consequences. The report predicted that sea-level increases would be 4 inches less than otherwise; it might be possible to prevent the irreversible melting of the vast West Antarctic ice sheet, and only half as many people would be afflicted by lack of water.

The panel, considered the world's most definitive body on climate change, acknowledged that recommended steps, while technically feasible, would entail "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society" — energy, transport, land use, urban planning.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who has championed the Paris accord, tweeted that the report "brings scientific proof: we have everything we need to combat climate change."

"But everyone has to act now!" he said.

In California, Brown in recent years has signed legislation to power the state's electric grid via 100 percent clean sources by 2045, and to by 2030 reduce the state's carbon emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels — with both goals the most aggressive in the nation.

AP
People listen to speeches during a protest demanding European Union leaders to honour their commitments to the 2015 Paris Agreement to keep global warming to 1.5°C (34,7°F), outside the European Parliament in Brussels, Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018

Life-or-death warning

Preventing an extra single degree of heat could make a life-or-death difference in the next few decades for multitudes of people and ecosystems, warns the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

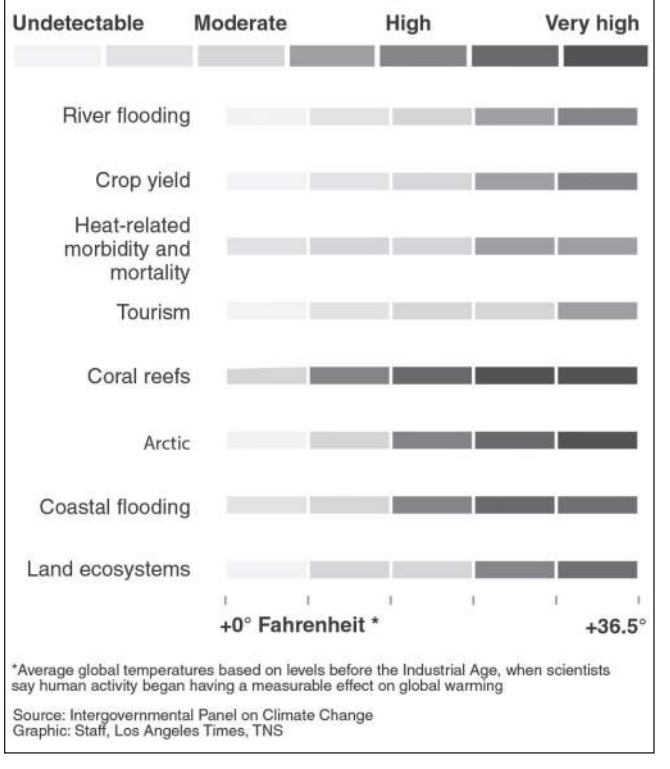
If world leaders could somehow limit future human-caused warming to just 0.9 degrees Fahrenheit from now, instead of the globally agreed-upon goal of 1.8 degrees F ...

- Half as many people would suffer from lack of water.
- There would be fewer deaths and illnesses from heat, smog and infectious diseases.
- Seas would rise nearly 4 inches (0.1 meters) less.
- Half as many animals with back bones and plants would lose the majority of their habitats.
- There would be substantially fewer heat waves, downpours and droughts.
- The West Antarctic ice sheet might not kick into irreversible melting.
- And it just may be enough to save most of the world's coral reefs from dying.

Source: AP, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Graphic: Staff, TNS

What's at risk

Various human and natural systems are at risk of persistent or irreversible damage because of global warming.



*Average global temperatures based on levels before the Industrial Age, when scientists say human activity began having a measurable effect on global warming

Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Graphic: Staff, Los Angeles Times, TNS

Brown is termed out of office this year, and the leading candidate to replace him, Democratic Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, said he wants to continue Brown's legacy on climate change.

"This is California's great foreign policy," Newsom said during a gubernatorial debate Monday.

Newsom's opponent, Republican businessman John Cox, said he believes climate change is real, but indicated he would slow down on the state's efforts to combat it. Legislation such as the bill Brown signed to decarbonize the electric grid is too costly, Cox said during the debate.

"We're going to keep pounding this state into poverty," he said.

One of the report's contributors said predicted temperature increases will be greater in the semi-arid climate of the American West.

Diana Liverman, a professor of geography and development at the University of Arizona, said this would lead to even more intense heat waves, droughts, fires and downpours than California already is experiencing.

Liverman praised California's responses to climate change so far, but said the state could be investing more in technological research on capturing carbon in the atmosphere and battery storage for renewable energy.

"California is definitely making decisions that are consistent with our report," she said. "They might not be quite enough still."

The coal industry responded coolly to the report. The London-based World Coal Association's interim chief executive, Katie Warrick, said in a statement that the document was being reviewed, but "experts continue to see a role for coal for the foreseeable future."

Domestic critics of White House policies on climate change called the report one more indication of an America out of step with the rest of the world. The United States is the world's second-largest emitter of carbon.

"If the US continues to put its head in the sand when it comes to climate change, the only thing for sure is that there will be a lot more sand," tweeted Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations. "Our policy of denial and inaction will rightly be condemned by future generations who will pay an enormous price."

Many of the world's emerging economies took the report as jarring but expected. Those include India, whose 4,600-mile coastline and a large population dependent on agriculture and fisheries make it one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change.

The Center for Science and Environment, an influential Indian think tank, said the climate panel's prognosis was "incredibly grim."

The report "has served us a final warning that we must get our act together — now and quickly," Sunita Narain, the center's director general, said in a statement.

India was once seen as a potential spoiler in world climate talks because its leaders said their priority was economic development, not clean energy. But in recent years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has set ambitious targets to reduce use of fossil fuels and emerged as a leader in installing new solar power.

Asked about the report, a senior official in India's environment ministry, A.K. Mehta, said India "recognizes climate change to be a real threat."

"Denying the reality of climate change," he said, "is not going to help anyone."

Life & Style

A Roseanne Barr-less 'The Conners' is a triumph

This image released by ABC shows Lecy Goranson, from left, Laurie Metcalf and Sara Gilbert in a scene from "The Connors," airing Tuesdays on ABC. AP

NEW YORK (AP)—Can there be a "Roseanne" without Roseanne? The answer is yes, indeed. There can even be a pretty good sitcom. And you might not miss her that much.

ABC on Tuesday night aired the first episode of "The Conners," a spinoff of "Roseanne" without Roseanne Barr. An overdose of pain pills may be the explanation for the contentious comedian's absence from the Conner dining table, but she still haunts it, at least in the new show's pilot.

The writers—Bruce Helford, Bruce Rasmussen and Dave Caplan—have done an absolutely masterful job of tackling a post-Barr world, confronting sadness, cynicism and hopefulness in just the right amount of proportions.

They've accomplished that without the main reason people once tuned in. Barr was the show's gravitational pull, the hurler of barbs in that accusatory, whiny voice. Leaving her behind is akin to taking Neil Patrick Harris out of "How I Met Your Mother" or airing "Star Trek" without William Shatner.

But in the absence of Barr's acerbic black hole, the trio of Dan Goodman, Laurie Metcalf and Sara Gilbert raises its acting games, turning the first episode into something like a one-act play, albeit a comedy written by Arthur Miller.

The pilot begins three weeks after Roseanne's funeral, with the family still coming to grips with its loss in its own trademark way with off-color barbs. "I'm tired of crying. And laughing inappropriately is what mom taught us to do," Lecy Goranson's Becky says. When husband Dan is offered a free sympathy beer at a bar, he successfully upgrades it from domestic to German.

Goodman has never been better, showing his tender and angry sides underneath all that bluster and gruff, while an aching Gilbert tears up at one point, freed from her usual rat-a-tat joke demands. And you can feel Metcalf's yawning grief at the loss of her sister in a visceral way as she goes on a manic cleaning binge. "I don't want to go home. I don't want to leave this house because I don't want to leave her," she wails.

We learn that Roseanne had multiple pain-pill suppliers and was stashing stockpiles all over the house. "Who am I supposed to be mad at now?" Dan asks. For his part, Dan also starts to deal with his uncomfortableness with homosexuality, in the end sitting down with his gender nonconforming grandson to help him pick a potential boyfriend.

One thing noticeably absent from the first episode: politics. There's no Trump, no Hillary, no Washington. The fission of red state-versus-blue state infighting that made the reboot of "Roseanne" such a flashpoint is gone. Viewers are left with a blue-collar family worried about bill collectors and military deployments.

Barr's absence makes sense since her addiction to opioids was a prominent story line in last season's reboot. ABC fired Barr from "Roseanne" after she posted a racist tweet (she apologized). Barr said she agreed to the spinoff to save the jobs of 200 cast and crew members who were idled when "Roseanne" was canceled.

"Roseanne" was always masterful at quickly popping its own moments of emotional sweetness with a wry, sardonic needle, basically and gleefully mocking the traditional sitcom formula. Thankfully, "The Conners" stays in that tradition.

When Jackie, who in one scene is putting away kitchen tools, tearfully hugs Darlene in the kitchen, the younger woman admits: "It hurts." Jackie responds: "I know, hon. It's going to hurt for quite a while."

"No," replies Darlene, "Corn holders in my shoulder."

The first episode artfully mixes boob jokes and poignant scenes, as when Dan silently hugs the empty space in the bed where his wife once lay. The swirling credits and harmonica theme song that plays when family members gather around the kitchen table now comes at the end, and without Barr's throaty laugh.

The cast seems to reference the elephant in the room when Dan and Darlene toast Roseanne's stubbornness. "She was gonna to do what she was gonna do," Goodman says. "She never listened to a damn person in her life."

With her polarizing presence gone, we can finally listen to the rest of the family. And maybe we might, one day, ask, "Roseanne, who?"

Quavo on cutting collaborations, solo album, Migos and Drake

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Quavo may be one-third of the uber-successful hip-hop group Migos, but he's also a rapper in high demand, appearing as a featured act on Top 10 hits by Post Malone, DJ Khaled, Drake and Liam Payne.

The 27-year-old star said he was collaborating with others so much that he had to turn down work so he could completely focus on his first solo album, "Quavo Huncho," released last week.

"Right now, I'm just going to chill and work my album and calm down on features," he said. "I just want to tuck away and go into kill mode with this album. ...I've turned down projects all the time. Not on some disrespectful-type (stuff), but I don't want to oversaturate my sound."

Quavo, who has appeared on tracks by Camila Cabello, Major Lazer, Halsey and Iggy Azalea, also co-wrote Beyonce and Jay-Z's hit song, "Apes--t." His new album features collaborations with Madonna, Cardi B, Drake, Travis Scott and Lil Baby.

Migos, which includes Offset and Takeoff, are currently on tour with Drake. In an interview with The Associated Press on Monday at his Huncho Hoops celebrity youth basketball game and music video shoot, Quavo talked about watching Drake end rap beefs with Meek Mill and Chris Brown on the tour, new Migos music and more.

AP: You're the first member of Migos to release a solo project. Will Offset and Takeoff follow suit this year?

Quavo: Yes, I don't know the exact dates. But Takeoff will be next and (then) Offset will come.

AP: How about new Migos music?

Quavo: We'll be at the top of 2019. We're going to hit them with "Culture III."

AP: Did you envision yourself and Migos being this successful?

Quavo: Nah, I never really did see myself as a standalone. We never really saw ourselves having solo careers. We came in as a group. We were trying new ways and new sounds. It's all about growth. When we were coming as a group, we weren't thinking about kids, marriage or like real stuff. Seeing Offset have his wife (Cardi B) and kids, it makes you want to grow up. We all can't stay in the same house no more.

AP: What have you and the group learned from being on tour with Drake?

Quavo: The more and more we hit the stage, our chemistry becomes a lot stronger. Our sounds are better, our ad-libs come more in pocket. Then coming back off the stage and watching Drake, seeing how he controls the crowd on his solo approach, we learn so much both ways.

Anna Burns wins Booker Prize with Troubles tale 'Milkman'

LONDON (AP) — Anna Burns won the prestigious Man Booker Prize for fiction Tuesday for "Milkman," a vibrant, violent story about men, women, conflict and power set during Northern Ireland's years of Catholic-Protestant violence.

Burns is the first writer from Northern Ireland to win the 50,000-pound ($66,000) prize, which is open to English-language authors from around the world. She received her trophy from Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, during a black-tie ceremony at London's medieval Guildhall.

The 56-year-old Belfast-born novelist said she was "stunned" to have won. Burns said her books took a long time to complete, and she has often struggled financially since her first novel, "No Bones," was released in 2001.

"I just wait for my characters to come and tell me their stories, and I can't write until they do," Burns told reporters. "Also, as with a lot of writers, they don't earn much money. So that gets in the way of the creativity."

Burns said that with her prize money, "I will clear my debts and live on what's left."

The writer said the germ of "Milkman" came to her in the image of a teenage girl walking down a street in a divided city while reading the novel "Ivanhoe."

"Milkman" is narrated by a bookish young woman dealing with an older man who uses family ties, social pressure and political loyalties as weapons of sexual coercion and harassment. It is set in the 1970s, but was published amid the global eruption of sexual misconduct allegations that sparked the "Me Too" movement.

Couple plans to visit 6 Disney parks on 2 coasts in 1 day

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A Tennessee couple plans to visit six Disney parks on two U.S. coasts in one day.

Heather and Clark Ensminger on Wednesday plan to visit Disney World's four theme parks in Florida, hop a cross-country plane and end the night at Disney's two California parks.

The couple from Kingsport, Tennessee, will be armed with a spreadsheet showing what time they need to be at each park.

In Florida, they plan to have breakfast at Disney's Hollywood Studios before walking over to Epcot. From there, they will go to the Magic Kingdom and have lunch at Animal Kingdom.

They have a direct flight from Orlando to Los Angeles at 4:30 p.m.

They plan to be at California Adventure by 8 p.m. local time and Disneyland before it closes at midnight.

Prince Harry in another catch-up with war widow in Sydney

SYDNEY (AP)—There's clearly a special bond between Prince Harry and a 98-year-old war widow who gave him a warm hug Tuesday when they met—again—in Sydney.

It's a regular catch-up.

The widow, Daphne Dunne, tries to cross the prince's path whenever he comes to Australia.

It's a natural fit for Harry, who has made championing the cause of veterans one of his principal causes.

He first noted Dunne when he visited Sydney in 2015 and saw that she was wearing a Victoria Cross.

That's a significant award that wouldn't escape Harry's eye. It is awarded to military personnel who show gallantry "in the presence of the enemy" and can be awarded posthumously.

It is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed by the British monarch, and Dunne told Harry it had been awarded to her first husband after he died in Papua New Guinea during World War II.

Harry and Dunne caught sight of each other outside the Opera House during his visit Tuesday. They hugged and chatted, and Harry introduced her to his pregnant wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex.

"Oh my goodness, is this Daphne?" Meghan asked.

Dunne later said Meghan claimed to have heard all about her.

"I wished them well with the baby on the way and said this is what Harry has been waiting for so long," said Dunne.

Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex meet 98-year-old Daphne Dunne during a walkabout outside the Opera House in Sydney, Australia, Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018. Prince Harry and his wife Meghan are on a 16-day tour of Australia and the South Pacific.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Lady Gaga thanks 'fiance' during speech

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lady Gaga apparently is getting married. The 32-year-old singer and "A Star is Born" actress thanked her "fiance" Christian Carino as she finished speaking Monday night at Elle's 25th annual Women in Hollywood event. A message seeking comment from her publicist was not returned. Gaga was sporting a ring on her left hand as she gave an emotional speech in which she touched on sexual assault and mental illness. People magazine reported the Grammy winner began dating the 49-year-old talent agent in February 2017. Gaga was engaged to Taylor Kinney before they broke up in 2016.

Trump attacks porn actress Stormy Daniels as 'Horseface'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is insulting the physical appearance of porn actress Stormy Daniels, calling her "Horseface" in a tweet about a recent legal ruling. A federal judge dismissed Daniels' defamation lawsuit against Trump. Daniels alleges she had an affair with Trump in 2006 and sued him in April. The defamation lawsuit came after Trump tweeted about a composite sketch of a man Daniels says threatened her in 2011 to keep quiet about an alleged affair. He called it a "total con job." The judge on Monday said Trump's tweet was a "hyperbolic statement" protected under the First Amendment. Trump tweeted: "Great, now I can go after Horseface and her 3rd rate lawyer." Daniels' attorney Michael Avenatti called Trump's comments "outrageous." Trump has a history of derogatory comments about women's appearances.

Town OKs steep fines for parking near 'The Goonies' house

ASTORIA, Ore. (AP)—The Astoria City Council has taken a step toward cracking down on motorists who illegally park near "The Goonies" house. The Daily Astorian reports the City Council held a first reading of an ordinance Monday to modify city code and enhance the fees people will have to pay if they violate parking rules in the neighborhood. Under the proposal people parking illegally could face a $100 fine. City councilors will hold a second reading and officially could adopt the ordinance at a November meeting. City Manager Brett Estes and Police Chief Geoff Spalding say the city already has posted signs saying "No Stopping," and "No Parking" in the area with only a moderate level of compliance. The neighborhood has long been a draw to tourists hoping for a glimpse of the house featured in the 1985 movie.

Fall foliage, tradition, wildlife star in PBS' 'AutumnWatch'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Attention would-be leaf peepers: Even if fall is a bit player where you live, PBS has got you covered. A three-night public TV series, "AutumnWatch New England," promises to showcase the colorful landscape and other seasonal glories. Among the live and pretaped segments are time-lapse video of foliage changes and filmmaker Bob Poole's look at the nighttime routines of wildlife including bobcats and bears. Other highlights include visits to a New Hampshire pumpkin festival and Maine's Fryeburg Fair, held annually since 1851. Travel authority Samantha Brown and BBC presenter Chris Packham will host from a lakeside campfire in New Hampshire. Contributors include chef Vivian Howard, biologists and other experts. "AutumnWatch New England" is a PBS and BBC Studios co-production. It's airing on PBS at 8 p.m. EDT Wednesday through Friday (check local listings for times).

Chance the Rapper weighs in on Chicago mayoral race

CHICAGO (AP)—Chance the Rapper is weighing in on the Chicago mayor's race. The Grammy Award-winning artist from Chicago on Tuesday endorsed Amara Enyia in the 2019 race to replace Mayor Rahm Emanuel. Chance, whose real name is Chancelor Bennett, said during a news conference at City Hall that he and Enyia "share a vision for what Chicago could be." He says they both want to help "people on the bottom." He also says he "probably won't ever be running for mayor" himself, despite becoming more politically active in recent years. Enyia is director of the Chamber of Commerce in a west side Chicago neighborhood. She ran briefly for mayor in 2015, but dropped out before the election. More than a dozen people have said they're running in the February election.

Pip Pip Hooray: Pippa Middleton gives birth to baby boy

LONDON (AP)—Pippa Middleton, the sister of Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, has given birth to a baby boy. A spokeswoman for Middleton and her husband James Matthews said Tuesday that their first baby had been born the day before. Kensington Palace says that Prince William and Kate are "thrilled for Pippa and James." The new baby will be a cousin to William and Kate's three children—George, 5, Charlotte, 3, and 5-month-old Louis. The baby was born on the day the palace announced that Prince Harry and his wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, are expecting their first child.

Mother's empty-nest syndrome becomes an unhealthy fixation

DEAR ABBY: I am suffering from a depression I think many mothers experience when they become empty nesters. Although my husband is supportive, I miss my 18-year-old so much that sometimes I'm tempted to drive to his college in Florida. My husband and I have always wanted to live in a warmer climate, but he doesn't like the humidity in Florida. We had planned to move to Arizona once my son went away to college, but now I'm having second thoughts because the drive to Arizona from Orlando is twice the distance, and I don't think I can take his being that far away.

I have good job offers in Arizona, and family there as well, so I know it would be a healthier place for me to be. I just cannot reconcile with the fact that my son will be so far away. He will be in college in Orlando for the next five years, as he is in a master's degree engineering program. Am I being overprotective? He's my only son. I have real anxieties about this and have been seeing a counselor as well as my doctor, who prescribed a mild antidepressant. Is this normal? Should I stay put? Should I move?

INDECISIVE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR INDECISIVE: While some degree of empty-nest syndrome is normal, what you are experiencing is not. Keep the conversation open with your husband about relocating to Arizona. Your son needs a chance to become independent as much as you need the time to allow it to happen.

You say your husband can't tolerate the Florida humidity. Is it your intention to impose it on him for the next five years? It would create unnecessary stress on your marriage. Further, what will happen after your son earns his degrees and is offered a job elsewhere? Do you plan to move again to be close to him?

Continue your counseling and meds. And while you're at it, find a volunteer project so you won't have time to sit and brood. With time, your anxiety will subside, and you will become less emotionally dependent upon your son—which will be healthier for both of you.

DEAR ABBY: I have read many of your columns and enjoyed them. These days though, you seem to hear from more and more people who are afraid of saying what needs to be said. I suspect it can be chalked up to the "be politically correct" nature of our country lately. But why is it that when people do speak their minds, others consider them rude? I let people know when they are disrespectful to me in public, and I don't put up with being put down. Am I wrong in feeling that people who say mean things need to be immediately corrected? Or am I really being rude?

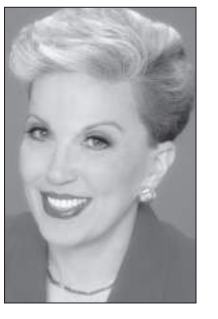
FARMGIRL IN MISSOURI

DEAR FARMGIRL: You are not wrong, and it is not rude if you choose to defend yourself. What you are being is assertive, which is a healthy personality trait. No one should have to accept as normal social interaction being made to feel "less than" in public. If someone has a bone to pick with you—and vice versa—it should be done in private.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I THINK PEOPLE WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT LITTLE THINGS.
ALL THEY DO IS MAKE THEMSELVES UNHAPPY THAT WAY.
WHY GET AN ULCER OVER THINGS THAT DON'T REALLY MATTER?
LIKE THE BOOK REPORT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WRITING NOW ON THE BOOK YOU HAVEN'T READ?
EXACTLY. CASE IN POINT.

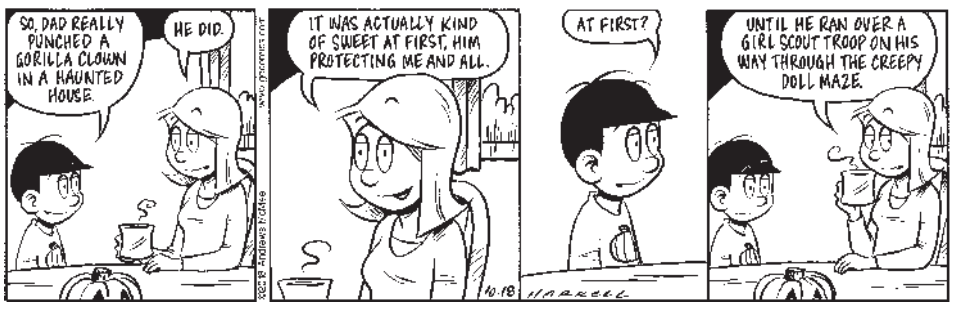
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

BY HOLDING PERFECTLY STILL, I PREVENT MY PREY FROM SEEING ME
HEY! LOOK AT THAT FAT CAT IN THE BUSHES OVER THERE!
THAT WASN'T MY PREY

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO, DAD REALLY PUNCHED A GORILLA CLOWN IN A HAUNTED HOUSE.
HE DID.
IT WAS ACTUALLY KIND OF SWEET AT FIRST, HIM PROTECTING ME AND ALL.
AT FIRST?
UNTIL HE RAN OVER A GIRL SCOUT TROOP ON HIS WAY THROUGH THE CREEPY DOLL MAZE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

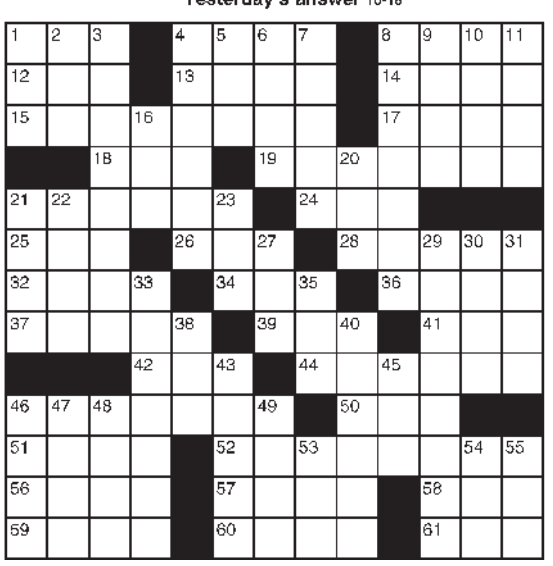
ACROSS
1 Candy-heart word
4 Trudge
8 Lighten
12 "Life — cabaret ..."
13 Employ
14 "— Lang Syne"
15 "Jump" band
17 Pirate's drink
18 Proof letters
19 A little night music?
21 Stirred up
24 Observe
25 Mentalist Geller
26 Fixed
28 Confused
32 Try out
34 Fragrant tree
36 Stuff like that
37 [Yawn]
39 Chest muscle
41 Privy
42 Snitch
44 Ruffled
46 Smart-phone accessory
50 Brit. record label
51 Bern's river
52 Variety of leather
56 Skirt feature
57 Vagrant
58 Hubbub
59 Coal carriers
60 Aspen gear
61 '60s war zone

DOWN
1 Actress Tyler
2 Olympics chant
3 Conquer, as in battle
4 Sun-glasses
5 Dogpatch adjective
6 Base-ball's Hershiser
7 Biological group
8 Baby raptors
9 Mystique
10 No neatnik
11 Jittery
16 Cock and bull?
20 Grazing land
22 Popular cookie
23 Dict. info
27 Bit of advice
29 Gilbert's partner
30 Earth Day subj.
31 "Hi, sailor!"
33 Castle towers
35 Game official
38 Periodical, for short
40 Beliefs
43 Computer pros
45 "As I see it," to a texter
46 Moolah
47 Head light?
48 Desertlike
49 Castle
53 Slugger's stat
54 Nabokov novel
55 — de plume

Solution time: 24 mins.

H	A	H		C	O	P	S		C	O	A	T
E	L	I		A	R		A		A	B	A	
M	A	L		B	A	C	K	O	R	D	E	R
P	I	L	A	F			E	A	R			
			C	A	T	S		T	O	K	E	N
O	R	D	E	R	O	U	T		T	I	R	E
M	A	A		E	R	N	E	S		N	I	T
I	N	N	S		O	U	T	T	A	K	E	S
T	I	G	H	T		P	E	A	S			
			F	V	F				I	B	R	A
T	A	K	F	S	B	A	C	K		A	O	I
L	A	O	S		B		L	E		C	S	I
C	A	S	H		S	L	E	D		H	A	T

Yesterday's answer 10-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zac Efron, 31; Esperanza Spalding, 34; Freida Pinto, 34; Wynton Marsalis, 57.

Happy Birthday: Look at the past, evaluate the present and consider what you want to do next. You'll learn a lot through observation. Positive change happens when you set a goal and put a strategy in place that will help you reach your destination. Live, learn and do your best to replace what isn't working for you anymore with something that will. Your numbers are 9, 14, 20, 24, 27, 39, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Consider the possibilities and call in the help you need to get things done. Collaborating with people who are innovative and show interest in what you are doing will lead to future endeavors. Don't fear change; embrace what's being offered. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Know what you are up against and who is on your side. Pick your associates carefully and for the right reasons. Don't let emotions interfere in doing what's best. Partnerships should be questioned if equality isn't maintained. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* The goals you set will require energy, enthusiasm and determination, but in the end, you can come out on top if you are relentless and refuse to let what others do interfere with your plans. Don't let uncertainty hold you back. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Be aware of what others want you to do, but don't go against your better judgment to please. Stick to your plan, and use your intelligence, not your emotions, to make choices. You can be thoughtful and loving without giving in. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Focus on your needs, and refrain from getting involved in something you know isn't good for you in order to keep the peace. Focus on saving and doing things that will ensure you remain healthy and fit. Be good to yourself. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Talk matters through. You'll be able to make plans with someone you want to spend more time with. Love, romance and long-term partnerships are favored and will encourage making positive changes that will enhance your life. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't give in to someone pressuring you to do things you don't want to do. Set the record straight and speak up about what you want. Change begins within, and it's time for you to follow your heart, not someone else's demands. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Think twice before making a decision that will affect those you live with. An emotional situation will surface if you haven't been up-front about your plans. Find a positive way to convey your ideas that offers something for everyone involved. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Sharing with others may undermine what you are trying to accomplish. Someone is likely to use your openness against you. Don't be gullible or you will end up in a compromising position. Do your own thing to avoid interference. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't limit what you can do because someone is being pushy or creating unexpected changes to make your life difficult. Form plans and set priorities. It's up to you to say no when someone or something is working against you. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look over your personal finances and the deals you have made or the ones you are considering. Consider the costs involved and alternative choices that will save you from excessive expenses. Moderation is favored, emotional spending is not. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Check the rules and regulations before you get involved in something that may not be up to institutional standards. Doing things by the book will lead to positive changes and opportunities that will encourage personal gains. Don't reveal personal secrets. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are benevolent, wise and generous. You are resourceful and intense.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

5						3
	7		2		1	5	
			3		6		
	4	6	5		3	2	9	
	9	2	1		7	5	4	
			7		2			
	1		4		8		2	
2							1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

3	5	4	9	8	2	7	6	1
7	6	2	4	5	1	8	3	9
1	9	8	7	3	6	4	5	2
9	3	1	5	6	4	2	8	7
4	8	7	2	1	3	5	9	6
6	2	5	8	7	9	3	1	4
2	4	3	1	9	8	6	7	5
5	1	6	3	4	7	9	2	8
8	7	9	6	2	5	1	4	3

Pit Tolly Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MODERN NUTRITIONAL PRACTITIONERS **Solution: 8 letters**

H	O	L	I	E	V	I	T	A	N	R	E	T	L	A
D	T	H	E	R	A	P	Y	S	K	O	O	B	S	D
B	E	N	E	F	I	T	S	E	J	I	E	T	E	J
O	L	N	C	R	O	P	S	O	L	S	S	I	I	U
N	D	O	I	S	B	I	B	S	S	I	F	T	D	S
E	L	C	O	A	V	S	P	E	R	I	T	E	U	T
N	I	O	H	D	R	I	N	U	T	W	N	T	T	I
A	U	A	A	O	R	T	T	R	E	A	E	A	S	C
T	B	C	C	I	I	C	E	L	I	T	M	C	A	A
U	A	H	T	A	N	C	L	S	D	E	S	U	T	L
R	L	U	L	U	O	U	E	E	A	R	S	D	S	U
A	A	S	P	L	A	N	T	S	A	E	E	E	E	M
L	N	U	O	S	D	E	E	S	S	N	S	B	G	R
E	C	N	A	D	I	U	G	E	F	A	S	I	I	O
A	E	T	A	R	E	N	E	G	E	R	A	E	D	F

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Acupuncturists, Adjust, Advise, Alternative, Assessment, Balance, Benefits, Blood, Bone, Books, Build, Causes, Certified, Choices, Cleanse, Coach, Colon, Crops, Diet, Digest, Disease, Educate, Essentials, Fiber, Formula, Guidance, Herbs, Jobs, Natural, Nuts, Oils, Plants, Regenerate, Safe, Seeds, Spiritual, Studies, Therapy, Trained, Water, Well

Yesterday's Answer: Eight Beats

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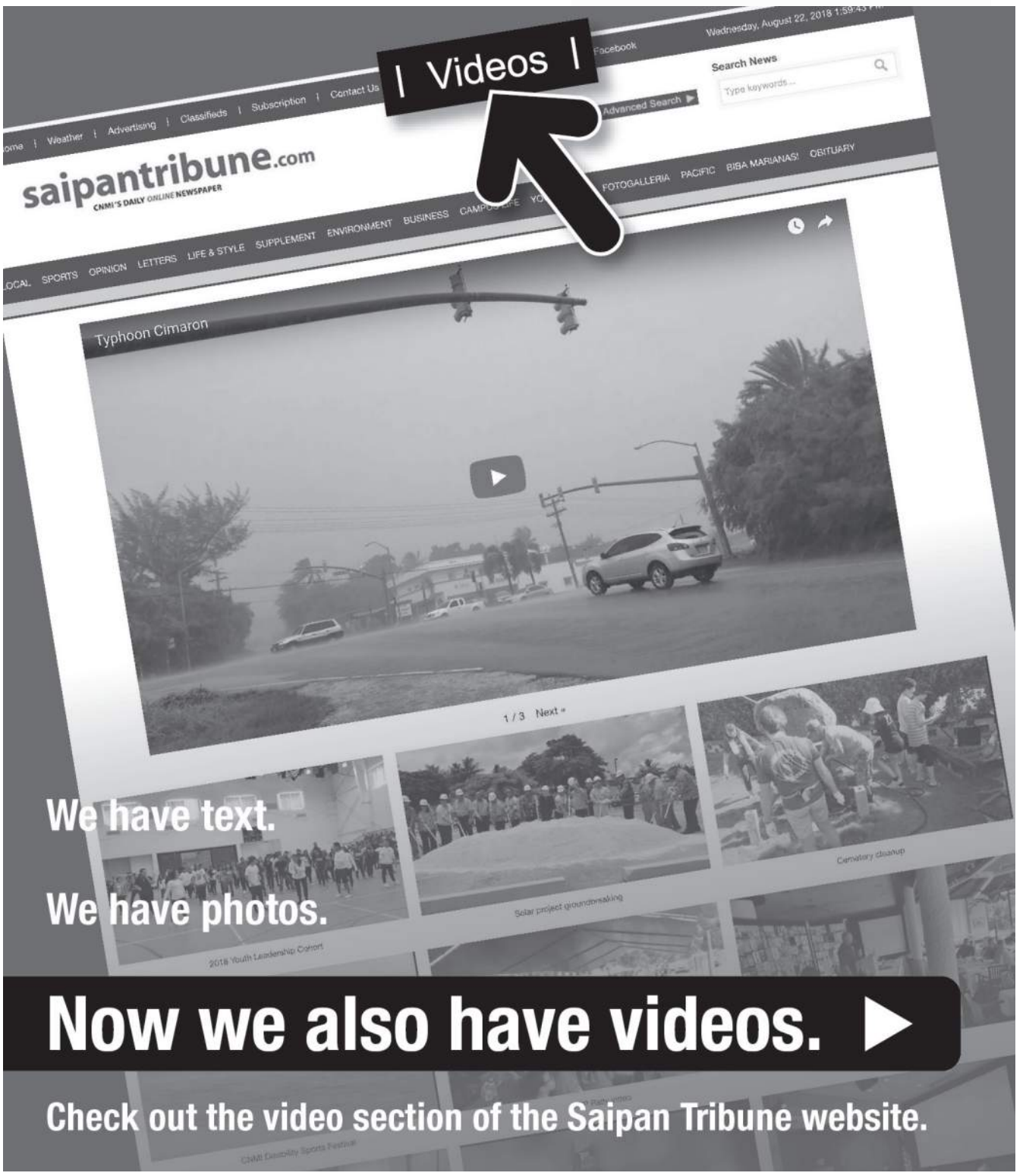

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

~~hold~~
~~holed~~ Shakespeare

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Find today's solution in classified section

Red Sox slam Astros to take series lead

HOUSTON (AP)—Jackie Bradley Jr. didn't let his demeanor change this season, even as fans begged Boston to trade him during a miserable first-half slump.

Stayed steady after the biggest swing of his career, too.

Bradley belted a grand slam for his second big hit in the AL Championship Series, helping the Red Sox beat the Houston Astros 8-2 on Tuesday for a 2-1 series lead. His low-key personality was on display as he rounded the bases without the hint of a smile. He greeted his screaming, excited teammates at home plate with one small jump and a few high fives.

"One of my coaches back in the day ... said: 'No one should ever know whether you're winning or losing. Kind of keep the same temperament. That way, it will allow you to put some perspective into things,'" Bradley said. "And I kind of took that to heart."

Bradley's slam backed a solid start by Nathan Eovaldi, who hushed Houston a day after some social media smack talk from Alex Bregman.

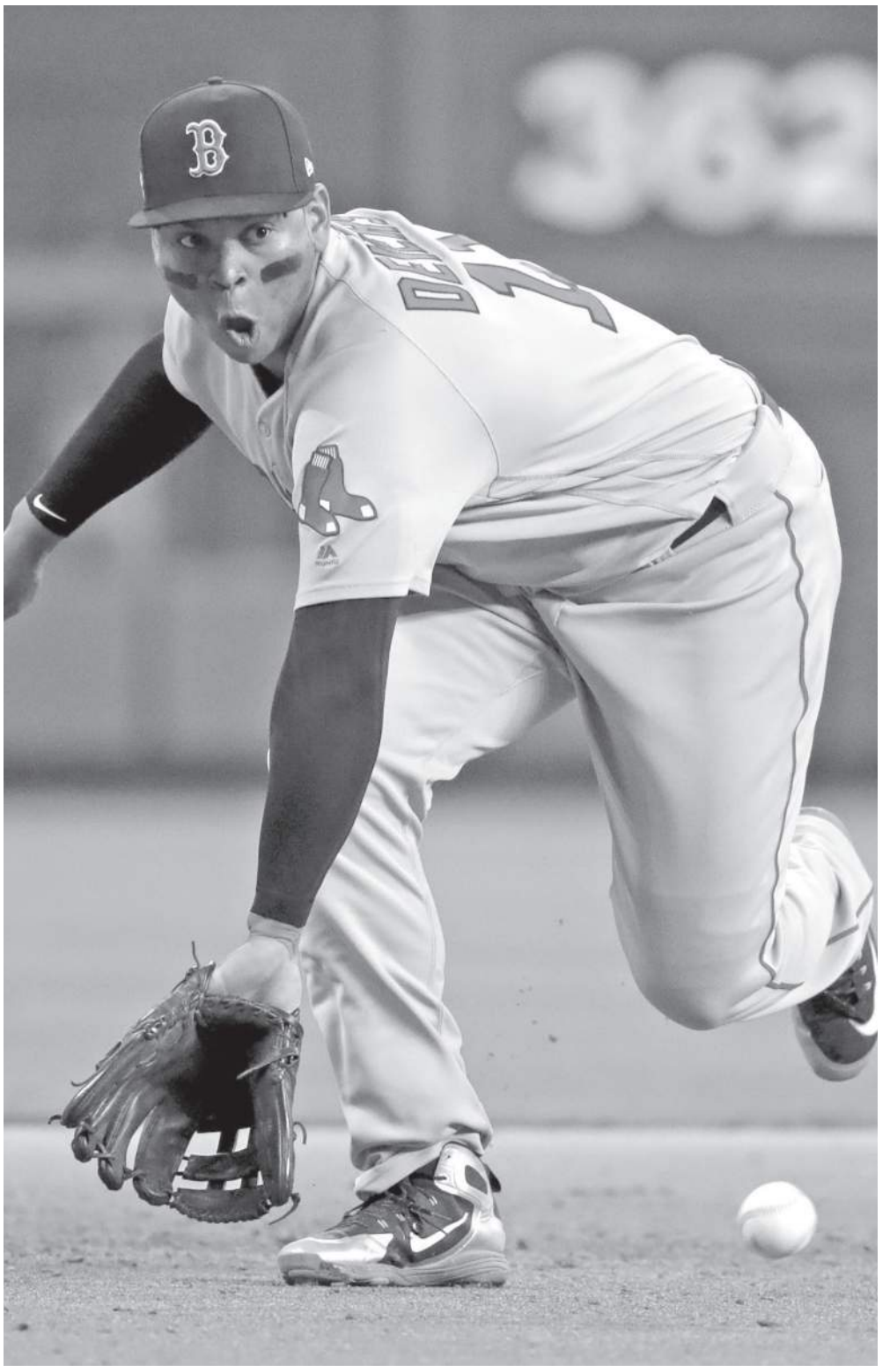
"We can play at any park," Eovaldi said. "The first game is always the biggest one of any series when you go on the road."

Game 4 is Wednesday night, with Boston's Rick Porcello opposing Charlie Morton.

Steve Pearce hit a tiebreaking homer for the Red Sox off Joe Smith in the sixth, a drive that sailed just inside the foul pole in left field for a 3-2 lead.

Bradley's slam capped a five-run burst in the eighth against Roberto Osuna. The Astros closer got two outs but allowed two singles and plunked consecutive batters to force in a run. Bradley then crushed a 1-1 fastball into the right field seats to send Houston fans streaming toward the exits.

"That's the pitch I always get him out with," Osuna said. "He hit it today, but I would go there 100 more times."



AP

Boston Red Sox third baseman Rafael Devers fields a base hit by Houston Astros' Alex Bregman during the fifth inning in Game 3 of a baseball American League Championship Series on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018, in Houston.

Osuna was acquired from Toronto this season while serving a 75-game ban under Major League Baseball's domestic violence policy. He had a 1.99 ERA over 23 games for Houston in the regular season after he returned.

With his childhood hero and fellow Alvin, Texas, native Nolan Ryan sitting behind the plate, Eovaldi turned in another solid start. He allowed six hits and two runs with four strikeouts in six innings for the win in the second playoff start of his career.

"For him, I know it's a special one," Boston manager Alex Cora said.

Bregman had shared a video Monday on Instagram of Houston hitting back-to-back-to-back home runs off Eovaldi in his previous outing against the Astros in June. Eovaldi downplayed the post when asked about it Monday.

Bregman did much of the damage against Eovaldi, getting two hits, an RBI and a walk in three plate appearances. Bregman has reached base safely in 20 of 28 plate appearances this postseason.

"Eovaldi did a great job," Bregman said. "He had really five pitches working for him. He's tough. We knew that coming into the game."

Bradley hit a three-run double during Boston's Game 2 victory, giving him three RBIs in consecutive games for the first time in his career. Moments after his slam, fans at TD Garden in Boston began chanting "JBJ!" during the Celtics season opener against the Philadelphia 76ers.

Bradley had caught the ire of many Red Sox fans while batting .210 during the first half of the season.

Indians complain to MLB about Astros filming

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Houston Astros may be defending more than their World Series title.

The champions are under scrutiny after Cleveland filed a complaint to Major League Baseball about a man associated with Houston attempting to film in the Indians' dugout during Game 3 of the AL Division Series last week.

During the Astros' series-clinching win on Oct. 8 at Progressive Field in Cleveland, a man with a cellphone standing by the photographer's pit was removed "several times" by security personnel, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Tuesday night. The man's credential was requested by Houston, according to the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

MLB also says it is aware of a report by Metro Boston that a man claiming to be an Astros employee was removed from a credentialed area near the Boston Red Sox dugout during the AL Championship Series opener at Fenway Park. The Red Sox dropped the series opener but have won the past two to take a 2-1 lead.

In a statement, MLB said the matter "will be handled internally" and offered no other details.

While it's yet to be proven if the Astros were doing anything illegal, the two incidents have raised further questions about the use of electronic equipment during games and whether Houston has been cheating.

According to the Metro report, which cited multiple security sources who were on the scene, a man was removed during the third inning of Game 1 on Saturday night at Fenway Park but allowed to stay in the ballpark after another Astros staffer intervened. The report said the man had a small camera and was texting frequently, but did not have a media credential.

Houston manager AJ Hinch and Red Sox manager Alex Cora both said after Boston's 8-2 win Tuesday night in Houston they had heard about the alleged incident.

"I'm aware of something going on, but I haven't been briefed," Hinch said. "I'm worried about the game."

Cora said he has been concerned throughout the season about Red Sox signs being stolen.

"So I mean we do a good job changing sequences and paying attention to details. And we don't get caught up on the whole paranoia thing of the signs," he said. "We try to slow it down. If we feel there's something going on we switch the signs."

Bellinger's walk-off single in 13th lifts Dodgers in Game 4

LOS ANGELES— By the time Manny Machado reached home plate, the winning run in a 2-1, 13-inning Dodgers triumph against the Brewers, his Los Angeles teammates were already pouring out of the dugout and toward the third-base line, perhaps not so much assuming the conclusion as they were hoping for it.

On Cody Bellinger's walk-off single, Christian Yelich's throw from right-field was a moment late, allowing Machado's left hand to swipe the plate. Chaos ensued. Bellinger, avoiding the mob of violently happy Dodgers, ran to leftfield, where they caught him, ripping at his jersey.

Bellinger's knock lifted the Dodgers to a 2-2 series tie in the best-of-seven NLCS.

That brought an end to a game that was light on offensive highlights but filled with plenty of others. In the 10th, both benches and bullpens cleared after a heated exchange between Brewers first baseman Jesus Aguilar and the Dodgers' Manny Machado, who on a routine groundout to shortstop dragged his left foot, kicking Aguilar as he passed the base. Three innings later, when Machado singled, they appeared to briefly hug.

The Brewers' bullpen threw 11 shutout innings before Bellinger ended it. The Dodgers, the highest-scoring team in the National League at nearly five runs per game in the regular season, were 1-for-9 with men in scoring position with 11 runners left entering the inning.

Josh Hader, pitching a second day in a row for the first time since August, worked around a pair of singles (and a pair of Brewers challenges that didn't go their way) in the eighth. Matt Kemp struck out swinging to strand both runners. Hader has never pitched three days in a row in the majors.

Brewers starter Gio Gonzalez recorded only three outs. Yasiel Puig, the first batter of the bottom of the second, tapped a bouncer back to Gonzalez, who jumped, didn't snag the ball and rolled his left ankle upon landing. Puig reached first on the single. Gonzalez threw one more pitch, a ball to Austin Barnes, before leaving because of the injury. Freddy Peralta (three walks, six strikeouts) went three shutout innings in his place.

Gonzalez likely wasn't long for Game 4, anyway. He threw 25 pitches in the first inning—walking Chris Taylor, hitting David Freese with a pitch and allowing Brian Dozier an RBI single—and in his Game 1 start went through the Los Angeles lineup only once.

The Dodgers' Rich Hill fared far better, allowing one run and three hits in five innings. He struck out six and walked three. The Brewers could barely touch Hill until the fifth, when Orlando Arcia snuck a one-out single up the middle, off the glove of diving second baseman Dozier. Domingo Santana, pinch hitting for Peralta, followed with an RBI double to right-center, scoring Arcia.

After the inning and done for the night, Hill expressed his frustration by smashing a bucket of candy in the Dodgers' dugout.

Now, the Dodgers turn to ace Clayton Kershaw for Game 5 in what could be his final start with the team. Kershaw is able to opt out of the final two years and $70 million of his contract—and thus become a free agent—after the season.

Curry, Durant lead Warriors past Thunder in opener

AP
Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, center, keeps the ball from Oklahoma City Thunder's Steven Adams, left, and Dennis Schroder (17) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

OAKLAND, Calif.—Stephen Curry had 32 points, nine assists and eight rebounds, Kevin Durant added 27 points, eight rebounds and six assists, and the Golden State Warriors opened their quest for a three-peat by holding off the Oklahoma City Thunder 108-100 on Tuesday night.

Golden State needed a strong fourth quarter to win on a festive night after the two-time defending champions received their 2018 rings in a pregame ceremony shortly before tipoff and began the final season at Oracle Arena before a move across San Francisco Bay to new Chase Center .

"It's a great move for the organization. We know that but this place is special, so we want to make sure this is a special season," coach Steve Kerr said.

Klay Thompson shot just 5 of 20 for 14 points while center Damian Jones scored 12 points on 6-of-7 shooting for the Warriors in his first career start and 26th game.

Paul George scored 27 points for the Thunder, who struggled to find an offensive groove while missing star Russell Westbrook because of knee surgery last month.

Oklahoma City trailed by 10 at the break then came out of halftime making 9-of-12 shots to go ahead 69-66 before the Warriors rallied.

Versatile Warriors All-Star Draymond Green, limited during the preseason by a sore knee, wound up with two points, 13 rebounds and five assists in nearly 33 minutes. Kerr plans to monitor his minutes in the early games.

"He told me if you look tired, I'm taking you out, so, maybe I'll try to hide it," Green joked at morning shootaround.

Curry, who shot 11 for 20 with five 3s, notched 17 30-point performances during his injury-shortened 2017-18 season.

These teams met in a season opener for the first time —hough the Warriors won on the road against the Seattle SuperSonics in 1983.

Golden State lost last year's opener at Oracle after a title run, 122-121 to the Rockets.

Meanwhile, layers' rings—what the team said are the first reversible championship rings ever—were lowered from the rafters with blue and yellow lightsabers.

Kerr called them "obscenely beautiful" and noted he much prefers the banner raising for its significance.

At the end of the ceremony, Curry took the microphone and called out longtime equipment manager and director of team operations Eric Housen to receive his ring in a lovely gesture to someone so important to the operation behind the scenes.

Recently retired big man David West, part of the last two title teams, sat courtside and received his ring.

Celtics 105, 76ers 87

In Boston, the Celtics will need time to figure out how to get the most out of their loaded roster this season.

It didn't stop them from picking up their first victory on a night they celebrated the official return of their two biggest stars.

Jayson Tatum had 23 points and nine rebounds, and the Celtics beat the Philadelphia on Tuesday night in the season opener for both teams.

Boston won despite shooting just 43 percent (42 of 97) from the field and 30 percent from the 3-point line (11 of 37). But the Celtics' struggles didn't dampen the mood inside TD Garden for the return to regular-season action for Gordon Hayward and Kyrie Irving.

Hayward said it was "amazing" to be back out there.

"My adrenaline was pumping those first three or four minutes," Hayward said. "I think everybody's adrenaline was pumping. It was sloppy at first. It was great just to be out there. It was a big step for me."

Marcus Morris added 16 points and 10 rebounds off the bench. Al Horford had nine points and five blocks.

The Celtics survived a lethargic start and rough shooting night but rallied to lead by as many as 18 in the second half.

Including the playoffs, Boston has won 10 straight games at home over Philadelphia, which it defeated in the Eastern Conference semifinals last season.

Joel Embiid led the 76ers with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Ben Simmons finished with 19 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists.

Embiid made it clear afterward the 76ers have a way to go to be on the Celtics' level.

"This not a rivalry," he said. "I don't know our record against them. But it's pretty bad. They always kick our ass. So this is not a rivalry."

Hayward played in his first game since undergoing surgery and more than 10 months of rehabilitation for the gruesome left ankle injury he suffered five minutes into last year's season opener.

He received an extended ovation from the home crowd during a pregame introduction that included a video montage of his rehab process.

Irving was also back following a pair of surgeries on his left knee that caused him to miss the end of the regular season and playoffs.

After receiving loud ovations during pregame introductions, Irving and Hayward both had sluggish starts.

Germany's struggle continues with loss to France

PARIS (AP)—Germany's year just keeps getting worse.

France handed the struggling Germans a 2-1 defeat in the UEFA Nations League on Tuesday, meaning Die Mannschaft has lost two straight competitive games for the first time since 2000.

It was Germany's sixth loss overall in 2018, and fourth in its last six competitive games after a group-stage exit at the World Cup.

The latest defeat, which followed a 3-0 humbling against the Netherlands on Saturday, came despite taking an early lead and dominating the first half against the World Cup champion.

Forward Antoine Griezmann helped France rally as he got the better of goalkeeper Manuel Neuer again, scoring both goals for the host at a packed Stade de France.

The result will only increase the pressure on Germany coach Joachim Loew, who guided the team to a World Cup title in 2014, along with three major tournament semifinals, last year's Confederations Cup win and one other final since 2008.

Midfielder Toni Kroos gave Germany the lead from the penalty spot after 14 minutes and the visitors had chances to go further ahead before Griezmann equalized with a superb header in the 62nd. He showed perfect timing to meet Atletico Madrid teammate Lucas Hernandez's cross from the left with a glancing header which looped over Neuer's outstretched hand.

With 10 minutes left, Griezmann coolly put France ahead with a penalty for his 26th international goal. He sent Neuer the wrong way, having also done so in the European Championship semifinals two years ago — when Griezmann also scored twice.

Deschamps acknowledged his side had been outplayed in the first half.

"We struggled to stop them, they went through us," he said. "Our positioning wasn't quite what it should have been."

But France has forwards other countries dream of, includling World Cup star Kylian Mbappe .

His pass picked out midfielder Blaise Matuidi's run and center half Mats Hummels was adjudged to have impeded Matuidi, although there was no video review available to the referee and Loew said the penalty should not have been given.

The win moved World Cup winner France top of Group 1 in the top-tier League A with seven points, while Germany is last with one point. The Netherlands can still top the group by beating France and Germany.

Lakers exercise deal options on Ball, Ingram, Kuzma, and Hart

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers have exercised their contract options for the 2019-20 season on Brandon Ingram, Lonzo Ball, Kyle Kuzma and Josh Hart.

The Lakers made the expected moves Tuesday for their young core surrounding LeBron James.

Ingram will make $7.27 million next season. The second pick in the 2016 draft averaged 16.1 points, 5.3 rebounds and 2.9 assists last year.

Ball will make $8.72 million next season. The second pick in the 2017 draft averaged 10.2 points, 7.2 assists and 6.9 rebounds in 52 games as a rookie.

Kuzma made the NBA all-rookie first team last season, averaging 16.1 points, 6.3 rebounds and 1.8 assists.

Hart averaged 7.9 points and 4.2 rebounds last season.

The Lakers open at Portland on Thursday.

Butler to join Wolves in opener

In Minneapolis, Just like last season, Jimmy Butler and the Minnesota Timberwolves traveled to San Antonio for their opener.

After all the disruption caused by Butler's trade request that became public a week before training camp began, no deal has been made. So the four-time All-Star will be on the court facing off against the Spurs with his Timberwolves teammates on Wednesday, no matter the awkwardness and tension that might be lingering.

"I'm planning on playing him, and if he feels good he'll be ready to go," Timberwolves head coach Tom Thibodeau said after an abbreviated practice on Tuesday, before the team departed for the airport for the trip.

Butler has only participated in four days of on-court workouts with the team, starting with his raucous appearance a week ago. Thibodeau canceled practice the following day, and Butler did not accompany the team to the preseason game on Friday because of what was officially announced as rehabilitation for his right hand that was surgically repaired in July.

Keenum hasn't taken Denver by storm

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—When the Denver Broncos signed Case Keenum to a two-year, $36 million deal last spring, they figured they were getting the quarterback who had led the Vikings to within one step of the Super Bowl.

Instead, they've gotten the journeyman he was with the Texans and Rams.

At least so far.

Keenum's eight interceptions are tied for the league lead and are one more than he threw in 15 games last year. He's been especially turnover-prone in the red zone and he's the only quarterback in the NFL who has thrown an interception in all six of his team's games so far.

Keenum's 15 sacks put him on pace for 40, nearly double what he had last season or in 2016 when he served as Jared Goff's tutor in Los Angeles.

Last week, Broncos general manager John Elway gave Keenum a vote of confidence, saying on Orange & Blue 760, "I think that Case has done a nice job. It's always an adjustment getting used to a new offense and a new coaching staff and what he's used to. He's provided leadership, he's provided that grit."

Then, Elway hit the scouting trail, flying to Eugene, Oregon, with top personnel assistant Matt Russell to check out Ducks QB Justin Herbert, who is expected to be the top quarterback in the 2019 NFL draft if he leaves school after this season.

AP
Denver Broncos quarterback Case Keenum (4) throws as Los Angeles Rams linebacker Samson Ebukam (50) pursues during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, in Denver.

Keenum acknowledged Tuesday that his adjustment has been a rocky one.

"It's tough," Keenum said. "You look at guys that have been in offenses for two, three, four, 10 years. The guy who played last night (Packers star Aaron Rodgers) has been in that offense a while and you start to know it like the back of your hand. You have just seen so many different plays and so many defenses you know what tends to get open."

On the other hand, this is his "first time throwing with these guys," said Keenum, quickly adding, "These are definitely not excuses. I'm not sitting here making excuses, but I think we're getting better. That's the goal, and it takes time."

The Broncos (2-4) have lost four straight heading into their game Thursday night at Arizona (1-5).

They hung tough in two of those losses, both at home, against two of the league's top teams.

They lost 27-23 to the Chiefs (5-1) in a game in which Keenum missed a wide open Demaryius Thomas for the potential game-winning score in the closing seconds, and the Rams beat them 23-20 Sunday thanks to penalties and an interception that cost the Broncos at least 10 points, including one on Emmanuel Sanders for taunting after what he mistakenly thought was a 44-yard touchdown.

Last week, offensive coordinator Bill Musgrave bunched his receivers closer to struggling left tackle Garett Bolles at times and used more two-back sets. Still, he didn't call many more runs for rookie running backs Phillip Lindsay and Royce Freeman, who have combined for four TD runs and a 5.19-yard average per carry despite the imbalance in play calls.

The Broncos rushed just 17 times and threw 41 passes against L.A. During their skid, they've run 80 times and thrown 159 passes.

"When you're playing (from) behind, you're trying to stick to your game plan and keep running the ball here and there," Keenum said. "But especially with the later it gets, you need to make explosive plays. That gives the defense, especially the defensive line, a chance to tee off. ...

"It's tough. But we put ourselves in that position early and we've got to make sure we don't do that again this week."

Bolles, the team's first-round draft pick in 2017, continues to struggle—he leads the league with six holding calls a year after committing an NFL-high 10. And losing left guard Ronald Leary to a torn Achilles on Sunday means Max Garcia returns to the spot he occupied next to Bolles much of last season.

Bolles said Leary's injury was "a tough one for me. It made me super emotional, but I have to move on. I have to help Max as much as he helps me and we have to get the job done."

Coach Vance Joseph said Sam Jones, a rookie from Arizona State, will be the backup guard against the Cardinals.

"I trust the offensive line no matter who's in there," Keenum said.

Notes: S Su'a Cravens (knee surgery) and WR-KR Jordan Taylor (double hip surgery) both practiced for the first time this season. "It was good to see Jordan back out there and also Su'a, but it's a jog-through today," Joseph said. "We'll go fast tomorrow, as far as the 7-on-7 red zone and the team red zone, so we'll see how they feel.

KANOA-1

From Page 28

chipped in two each, while Joe Emil Antonio and John Mark Anastacio contributed one each.

In the other game in the division, TanHoldings entered the win column after outclassing Kanoa-2, 6-2.

Five different players scored for TanHoldings with Ariel Narvaez delivering a pair. Narvaez drew first blood for TanHoldings in the 20th minute, while a minute later Izeah Jolo scored for Kanoa-2 to tie the match. The game remained in a deadlock at halftime as Anthony Bergancia hit the equalizer for TanHoldings in the 27th minute—a minute after Chad Escaner's goal put Kanoa on top.

When the game resumed, it was all TanHoldings' show with Narvaez getting his second goal (38th minute) and Mark Joseph Roque, Anthony Austria, and Angelo Pulido lighting up the board in the 46th, 48th, and 52nd minute, respectively.

BOYS U15 TanHoldings 8, Shirley's 0

TanHoldings also triumphed in the boys U15 division's first match at the NMI Soccer Training Center after shutting down Shirley's last Friday.

TanHoldings improved to a 2-0-1 record for second place behind Matansa (3-1-0), while Shirley's is at the cellar of the five-squad field with its 0-0-3 mark. MP United (1-1-1) and Kanoa (1-0-2) complete the team standings.

Taka Borja starred in TanHoldings' easy win after posting a hat trick and he recorded the three goals in streaks. He scored in the 32nd, 38th, and 51st minute. William Celeste added a pair, while Brandon Tenorio, Kohtaro Goto, and Theron Factor made one each.

Matansa 3, Kanoa 1

Matansa kept the division lead after defeating Kanoa in the second game.

Benito Lolobeyong towed Kanoa to its third win in as many games after his brace. Lolobeyong got his first goal in the 28th and the second and last in the second minute of extra time. Razeff Altamirano tallied the other goal for Matansa in the sixth minute, while Kanoa's lone goal was courtesy of Ian Karl Maniago in the 55th minute.

FINAL

From Page 28

games on offense and defense, but the duo's efforts were not enough to stave off their elimination from the playoffs.

Meanwhile, Agape 1's Eric Chen, David Zheng, and Bobby Bao threaded multiple aces through SDA's porous defense for the easy win. The Torchbearers' dynamic duo of Bao and Zheng set each other up and were mostly successful, as both launched a series of spikes that were too hot to handle for SDA.

In the second pair of playoff matches, both Mt. Carmel, and GCA 2 needed three sets to eliminate their foes.

The Knights squashed the Geckos' playoff run, 23-25, 25-11, 15-7, while the Eagles survived the Tsunamis' onslaught with a similar tough win, 24-26, 25-19, 15-13.

The Eagles' second squad, which came into this game with a two-game losing streak (bowing to Agape 1 and 2), overcame the pressure and tension of the playoff stage and resiliently slugged their way to victory.

"Personally, the win felt very electric because we were on the edge of elimination, but we still got it," team captain Ryan Daproza said.

Daproza stepped up for GCA 2 in the deciding third set after delivering two clutch overhand serves. Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero then dealt the final blow to SCS' playoff run with a craftily placed set that was out of the reach of Tsunamis defenders.

After the close win against SCS, GCA 2 will have an equally tough task today when it faces the No. 2 seed Agape 1 in the semifinals. The other semis game will have the unbeaten GCA 1 battling No. 4 Mt. Carmel. Games will start at 3:30pm and will still be played at the Ada Gym.

SINCLAIR

From Page 28

duel against Australia's Maverick Banes. The Aussie bet went on to end Sinclair's run with a 6-4, 6-2 triumph in the title game.

The finals stint in Toowoomba was Sinclair's fifth in a row in nearly three months of competing in Europe, Africa, and Oceania. His streak of finals appearances (singles) started in Belgium F9 Futures in Huy where he lost to Germany's Jan Choinski in a three-set match, 6-3, 6-7, 3-6.

The former CNMI junior player then moved to Damme for the Belgium F10 Futures and won his first four matches before falling to Belgium's Michael Geerts, 6-3, 6-3. From Belgium, Sinclair traveled to Monastir, Tunisia and competed in the Tunisia F31 Futures. He also prevailed in his first four matches before absorbing a heartbreaking 6-7 (5), 6-7 (4) loss to France's Gabriel Petit in the finals.

Two weeks after competing in Tunisia, Sinclair went to Brisbane for the Australia F7 Futures held early this month. He defeated two Japanese and two Aussies to move into the finals where he was paired against Germany's Evan Hoyt. The German foiled Sinclair's title bid with a 6-4, 7-6 (5) victory in the finals.

After the tournament in Brisbane, Sinclair went to Toowoomba for another finals stint. Though he fell short in the championship game, he could gain more rankings points and move closer to the Top 500 once results of the Australia F8 Futures are officially included in the rankings.

"Colin Sinclair's astounding run of final appearances continued. Colin, who was born on Sapan and had his early training here, will climb even higher when updated rankings are released next week," Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association official and CNMI National Team coach Jeff Race said.

SPC

From Page 27

the CNMI at the Micro Cup."

When Aldan was asked about the overall team morale heading into the Micro Cup, she replied with pride.

"For me, it's all about positive mindset, and with the women's crew, there is no shortage," Aldan said, "We have a lot of trust, experience, and determination in our team that I believe put our best foot forward in preparation for this race."

The 500m and long distance relay for the one-man rudderless canoe races for men, women, junior boys, and junior girls will take place on Oct. 26. The 500m and 1,000m six-man outrigger canoe races for the men, women, open mixed, junior boys, junior girls, and junior mixed crews will be he held on Oct.27, while long distance races for the six-man outrigger canoe races are set for Oct. 28.

"As always, our business community, friends, and family have all been very supportive and generous in their help," Andrew said. "Huge thanks to the many supporters of our event!"

Win No. 2 for Joeten 1, TanHoldings

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings and Joeten 1 notched their second win in as many games after topping their respective opponents in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

In the curtain-raiser, TanHoldings downed Top Development, Inc., 94-86, while Joeten 1 walloped Star Water in the second match, 109-84.

Joeten 1 set up the lopsided victory after going for the kill in the final canto where it scored 32 points—the team's biggest output in a quarter.

With Joeten 1 reaching past the century mark, it had five players finishing in double figures. Alex Lauron scored 24 points, Ernest Duenas added 17, and Patrick Rotap, Ferdie Tobias, and Jun Sambile added 15, 12, and 11, respectively.

Three other Joeten 1 players combined for 25 more points for the squad's oustanding offensive game.

Lerio Pagarao also had an explosive shooting night to power TanHoldings to victory over TDI. The lefty scored 39 points, making shots from all parts of the court to hand TanHoldings the early lead in the eight-team Pool A.

TanHoldings and TDI were in a deadlock after the first period, 19-19, but the latter failed to contain Pagarao in the second, allowing the former to take a 53-42 halftime lead. Pagarao had 18 points in the second canto and his TanHoldings never looked back, withstanding TDI's comeback bid in the final period.

Meanwhile, Docomo Pacific blew out Mobil, 93-49, to bounce back from its debut loss last week.

A 25-7 scoring surge in the first frame was all Docomo needed to control the match en route to the 44-point winning margin.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
TanHoldings' Troy Ngirarois, right, and TDI's Raymond Velasco ward each other off, as they get ready for the rebound play off Darwin Barbo's second free throw attempt during the third quarter of their game in the JP World caging last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Robert Sanciango paced Docomo with his 17 points, while Jason Hayes and Tony Diaz chipped in 16 and 15, respectively.

First Game

TanHoldings 94 — Pagarao 39, Esdrelon 12, Arreza 11, Sedillo 10, Usi 5, Francisco 5, Ngirarois 4, Pablo 3, Demafelix 3, Villamena 1.

TDI 86 — Barbo 21, Velasco 20, A. Reyes 15, Arreza 12, J. Reyes 6, Lumayag 4, Sefich 2, Foreman 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-19, 53-42, 70-57, 94-86.

Second Game

Joeten 1 109 — Lauron 24, Duenas 17, Rotap 15, Tobias 12, Sambile 11, Onopwiy 9, Quan 8, Lilles 8, Teregeyo 5.

Star Water 84 — Gaviola 21, Santos 20, C. Itaas 10, Manas 8, Dizon 8, De Leon 4, Ombac 2, J. Itaas 2, Gomez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-18, 49-33, 77-60, 109-84.

Third Game

Docomo Pacific 93 — Sanciangco 17, Hayes 16, Diaz 15, Deleon Guerrero 13, McCale 12, Grow 6, Alvarez 5, Asaivao 3.

Mobil 49 — Galoze 14, Almario 12, Concepcion 10, Torres 10, Aguilar 3.

Scoring by quarters: 25-7, 44-19, 66-40, 93-49.

Ragin' Rumble erupts tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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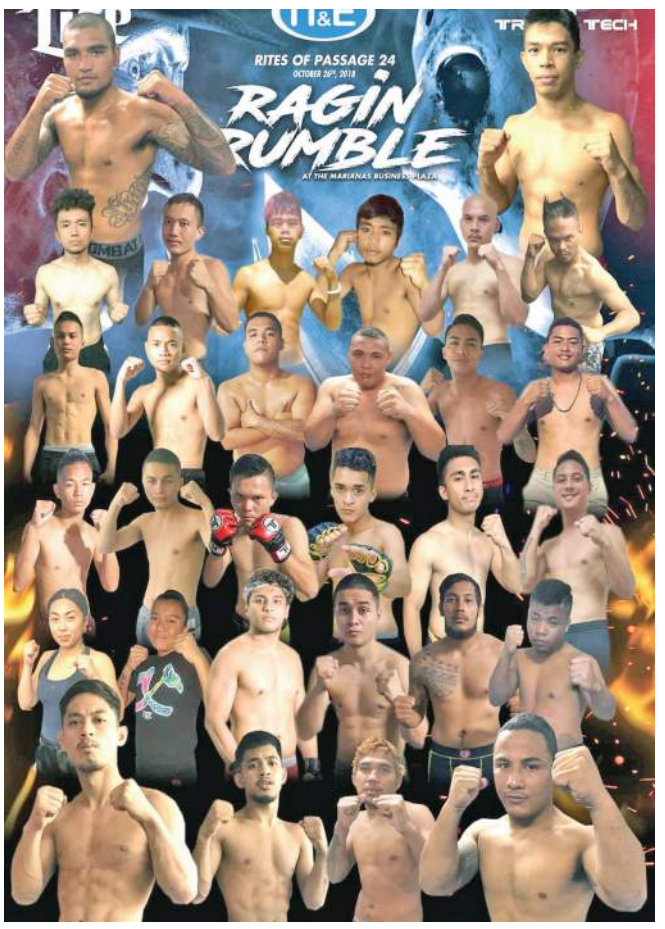
REPORTER

Sixteen bouts will be staged tomorrow at the Rites of Passage 24: Ragin' Rumble at the Marianas Business Plaza parking lot in Susupe.

Three Saipan versus Guam duels will highlight ROP 24, while two boxing matches, three kickboxing, and eight MMA events will spice up the fight night that starts at 8pm.

In the first Saipan vs Guam MMA tiff, Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique will take on Vida BJJ Guam's Pete Benavente. Another Vida BJJ Guam bet, Zach Benavente, will see action on the octagon cage as he challenges Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga. For the third Saipan vs Guam offering, Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez will square off against Steel Athletics' Jeff Mesa in a K1 bout with special rules.



TRENCH TECH PHOTO
A collage of fighters that will see action in tomorrow's Rites of Passage 24: Ragin' Rumble.

Meanwhile, the return of boxing matches in ROP 24 will have Mesa's stablemate Steve Kassala battling Trench Tech's Wildon "The Beast" Camacho. Another Steel Athletics fighter will be engage in a fistfight against Team Rage's Nate Nogis.

Following two boxing bouts, Trench Tech's Jessme "Don't Test Me" Jones and Steel Athletics' Jaid Shenttele will open the kickboxing triple-header of the night. For the second kickboxing duel, it will be JungleMMA's Manny "The Kid" Camacho versus Trench Tech's Ko "PakPak" Palacios, while Guam Muay Thai's Eric "Young ASAP" Lacambra and Trench Tech's Andres "The Tanapag Beach Bad Boy" Camacho will collide in the third match.

In the MMA events, Down-2Scrap's Jadrien "Hell Boy" Camacho and Guam's Austin Gaspay will step on the eight sides first. The rest of the pairings are as follows: Austin Indalecio vs Kentu Anua; Travis Camacho vs Justin Cangco; Robert Smith vs Bradlee Manalo; Austin Petros vs Jonathan Camacho; Jerome Fujihira vs Jones Langu; Cavin Castro vs Fradley Jepen; and Pejo Camacho vs Vince Torres.

All fight cards are tentative and in case of changes, ROP 24 has three standby fighters in Juan "Hot Pocket" Lizama, Junar Jesus, and Darren Taitano. Weigh-in will be held today at 5pm at Salty's.

SPC, MPP paddlers all set for Micro Cup

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI will be hosting the 20th Annual Micronesian Cup from October 26 to 29 and residents are encouraged to cheer for the home teams.

"The event is free to attend and watch," Saipan Paddling Club's president Justin Andrew said. "This year, SPC will have three men's crews, two women's crews, one junior boys crew, and one junior girls crew—a total of seven teams."

"CNMI teams have been preparing and training hard and are expected to perform well," Andrew commented when asked about his hopes for the Commonwealth paddlers.

Andrew added that their paddlers have been doing sprint and long distance training three to four times a week, and that each training session usually lasts about two to three hours. In addition to water-based training, some of the competitors have figuratively and literally gone the extra mile by doing land-based training to ensure that their endurance and conditioning are at its peak when it matters most.

Marianas Pacific Paddlers and Micronesian Games veteran Lorenza Aldan, on the other hand, shared that their squad has also been training hard and they hope to put on a good show for the 2018 Micronesian Cup.

"Over the last three months, the Marianas Pacific Paddlers have been working tirelessly to condition and fine tune our canoe," Aldan said. "We all love what we do and love the sport and are prepared to represent

See SPC on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Saipan Paddling Club members head to the finish line during last year's Micronesian Cup held in Guam.

Red Sox slam Astros to take series lead

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Curry, Durant lead Warriors past Thunder in opener

PAGE 25

Final Four cast complete

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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ROBY N. PAMINTUAN

Grace Christian Academy players and their coaches celebrate their playoff win in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League is down to four teams after Grace Christian Academy 1 and 2, Agape Christian School 1, and Mt. Carmel School won their respective playoff games yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The top-seeded GCA 1 took the first semis seat after ousting last place finisher Agape 2 with a straight set win, 25-16, 25-10. Agape 1 also ended Seventh Day Adventist' playoff run in a concurrent game, 25-10, 25-11.

GCA 1 was led by team captain Katriel Saures, who reached deep into her offensive toolkit to unload a series of skillfully delivered serves, spikes, and tips and override the Torchbearers' defensive matrix. Saures, who is also GCA's starting setter, shared the wealth throughout the game by lobbing perfectly calculated sets to spikers Hye Jin Elliot and Kean Pajarillaga.

Antonio Li and Jordan Miao of ACS 2 played well-rounded

See FINAL on Page 26

Kanoa-1 keeps unbeaten record

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa Football Club 2's Markus Toves is left open to kick the ball during the first half of their co-ed U13 game against Matansa in the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club-1 is still perfect following an 11-0 demolition of Matansa FC in the second game in the co-ed U13 division of the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

Kanoa bagged its third win for the solo lead in the five-team field. Idle MP United FC (2-0-1 win-draw-loss) remains in second place and is followed by TanHoldings FC (1-1-1), Matansa (1-1-2), and Kanoa-2 (0-0-3).

Jim Kurt Maniago anchored Kanoa-1's lopsided victory over Matansa after making three goals. He had back-to-back goals in the 11th and 18th minute and completed the hat trick in the 53rd. Markus Toves, Daniel Mar Pablo, and Leland Deleon Guerrero

See KANOA-1 on Page 26

2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League Standings (As of Oct. 15, 2018)

CO-ED U13

TEAMS	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Kanoa-1	3	0	0	23	4	19	9
MP United	2	0	1	14	8	6	6
TanHoldings	1	1	1	9	12	-3	4
Matansa	1	1	2	9	18	-9	4
Kanoa-2	0	0	3	6	19	-13	0

BOYS U15

Matansa	3	1	0	12	3	9	10
TanHoldings	2	0	1	11	4	7	6
MP United	1	1	1	5	2	3	4
Kanoa	1	0	2	4	5	-1	3
Shirley's	0	0	3	1	19	-18	0

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Colin Sinclair, seen here competing in Australia, made his fifth straight singles finals stint in the ITF Pro Circuit last week.

Sinclair rises up in pro rankings

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Colin Sinclair's surge to the ITF Pro Circuit rankings continued as he stretched his finals appearance streak to five.

The former CNMI junior player, as of Oct. 15, is ranked No. 569—jumping more than half from his previous rankings (No. 1, 267) at the end of the 2017 season.

Sinclair just finished playing in Australia F8 Futures in Toowoomba, Queensland, making it all the way to the title game of the hard court event. The 23-year-old won over Japan's Kazuki Nishikawa, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4); American Gage Brymer, 7-6 (9), 6-3; and Chinese-Tapei's Kuan-Yi Lee, 6-1, 6-2, to advance to the semis. In the Final Four, he rallied past Japanese Hiroyasu Ehara, 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, to set up a finals

See SINCLAIR on Page 26